



WOW: Word Of the Week

Patience

July 29, 2020

Sometimes a verse jumps out of the Bible, catches your attention, and you can't let it go. Once seen, it constantly provides answers. It helps explain life again and again.

For me, Exodus 6:9 is that kind of verse. This verse is not on most people's list of favorite memory verses. Whether you memorize it or not, I hope you become familiar enough with it that you will come back to it again and again. I hope it will bless you as it has blessed me. I hope you will find encouragement, the will to go on, patience and understanding with others.

"And Moses said these words to the children of Israel, but they gave no attention to him, because of the grief of their spirit and the cruel weight of their work."

The words Moses spoke were probably the words of Exodus 6:1-8. They are powerful, positive, promising words. But God's people could not hear them.

Sometimes people are not ready to hear the word of God. Jesus said that he did not share some things with his closest followers, the apostles, because they were not yet ready – they could not bear them (John 14).

Sometimes people are unable to hear the word of God because of distractions, concerns, frustrations, grieving spirits, the cruelty of life.

Sometimes people hear but cannot or do not pay attention.

Patience!

Lessons: encouragement, perseverance, patience.

First, in the midst of life's difficulties, encouragement to go on.

Second, in the midst of life's difficulties, perseverance.

Third, patience. Put myself in the shoes of others. Try to understand their situation, their context, their challenges. How can I help them hear?

We are seed-sowers. Those who would sow the seed have the responsibility to prepare the ground. I constantly want to see how, when, where I can insert the seed into a receptive heart ready to hear. Do not force God! Do not force God's Word! Patience. Cultivate the perceptiveness of the farmer.

And when you have trouble hearing the word of God – do not lose heart! Keep on! God is faithful!