

# the shallow **END**



## **6-WEEK STUDY**

DIVING INTO THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD

### **WEEK 3**

DISCUSSION GUIDE

**GOD IS SLOW TO ANGER**

# the shallow END



## WEEKLY READING

**Primary text from this week:** Exodus 34:6-7

**Secondary texts from this week:** Exodus 19:1-8; Exodus 24:1-7; 2 Peter 3:9-15; Revelation 1:4-6; 1 Peter 2:9-11

## GETTING STARTED

**Goals for this session:** To understand the extent of God's patience and how His patience should lead us to repentance (obedience)

**Missed the sermon?** Watch it at [www.youtube.com/venturamissionary](http://www.youtube.com/venturamissionary)

**Break the Ice:** In what areas of your life are you prone to be impatient? How does your impatience affect those around you?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read **Exodus 34:6-7**. Why is it significant that Yahweh highlights His characteristic of patience (slow to anger)? In what ways have you seen God's patience on display in other passages you've read in the bible? How have you seen God's patience displayed in your own life?
2. Read **Exodus 19:1-8; 24:1-7**. What was the response of the people of God to His expectations of them? How did they break that covenant with God in Exodus 32?
3. Have you ever had someone break their promise to you? What effect did their broken promise have on your life?
4. On Sunday, Pastor Scott shared with us that the literal Hebrew phrase for patience is "long of nostril." God takes long, slow breaths before He moves from patience to anger. How could you follow God's example of being "long of nostril" in your relationships?
5. God has a long fuse, but He has a fuse and eventually He will take action and deal with evil in the world. What does that reality mean to you?
6. Read **2 Peter 3:9**. Peter says the reason for patience is that God wants everyone to come to "repentance" which means a "turning away" from one direction and moving into a new one. In what areas do you need to respond to God's patience toward you by completely changing course? How will you take your first step in a new direction this week?
7. Read **Revelation 1:4-6**. According to these verses, how was God's intention for His people communicated in Exodus 19 (to be made into a kingdom and priests) accomplished in Jesus? (See also 1 Peter 2:9-11 and Philippians 2:8.) How is Jesus the ultimate expression of God's patience?

## PRAYER

**Pray for each other:** Pray that each person in your group would exemplify patience and pray for opportunities to demonstrate patience to the people who need it from us.

**Pray for yourself:** Ask God to point out areas in your life where you need to repent and become obedient.

**Pray for your four:** Identify four people who don't know Jesus (friends, family, neighbors, or co-workers/classmates), and commit to pray for them consistently. Pray that **(1)** God would reveal Jesus to them, **(2)** that God would turn their hearts towards Him, **(3)** that God would put Christians in their path to represent Christ, and **(4)** that God would give you an opportunity to share what Christ has done in your life.

## ACTION STEPS

**Take time this week to do the following:**

1. Write down all the times you can remember that God has shown His patience with you and thank Him for His faithful love and forgiveness.
2. Write a list of people in your life who have been hurt because of your impatience. Write a personal note (old school) of apology for how your impatience or broken promise(s) have hurt them.
3. When tempted to get impatient this week, take a long deep breath and be reminded of God's patience with you.

## NOTES

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