Welcome to Heart-to-Heart!
A Patient Heart;  
Chronic Annoyance In Marriage, and Beyond  

Week 2 | 10.21.13 (PM) | 10.23.13 (AM)
“Older women … encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands so that the word of God will not be dishonored.”

Titus 2:3-5 (NIV)
A Network of Seasoned Women
“Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.”

Proverbs 16:32 (NIV)
PATIENCE from two vantage points:

1. The practical vantage point; patience is complicated.
2. The spiritual vantage point; patience has purpose.
Patience is complicated

“Do not be conformed to image (customs) of this world.” Romans 12:2
When we are annoyed, we have one of two choices: we can be put out with the other person or we can be patient with them.
“Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love.”

Ephesians 4:2 (NTL)

KJV – “bearing with one another in love”
“... clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”

Colossians 3:12b-13 (NIV)
“bearing with one another” comes from the Greek word, forbearance and it has three definitions:

- to put up with;
- to hold up;
- to hold back
“God’s will cannot be measured by the level of ease or the level of difficulty; just because something is hard, it doesn’t necessarily mean it’s bad!” - Beth Moore
Patience is even more complicated by our selfish bent which resists patience because we are by nature impatient.
“But the fruit of the [Holy] Spirit [the work which His presence within accomplishes] is love, joy (gladness), peace, patience (an even temper, forbearance) …”

Galatians 5:22(AMP)
John 15:4-5 (NLT)
“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.”

When we spend time with Jesus - the seeds of His fruit (love, joy, peace, patience …) take root in the soil of our heart and mind and as they grow, we become like Him.
“Consider it wholly joyful, my brethren, whenever you are enveloped in or encounter trials of any sort or fall into various temptations. Be assured and understand that the trial and proving (testing) of your faith bring out endurance and steadfastness and patience. But let endurance and steadfastness and patience have full play and do a thorough work, so that you may be [people] perfectly and fully developed [with no defects], lacking in nothing.”

James 1:2-4 (AMP)
hupomone = patience for circumstances, inspired by hope

makrothumia = patience with people, inspired by mercy
Trial works patience in us inspired by God’s hope and annoyance works patience in us inspired by God’s mercy for the other person.
Annoyance can be about our own action and habits:

- Sleep deprivation
- Over-scheduled
- Choosing to be easily offended
- Unhealthy need to control ... and more!
When chronically annoyed ask yourself:

1. What is the source of my annoyance – them or me?

2. Do I need hope inspired patience for this circumstance or do I need mercy inspired patience for this person, and my relationship with them?
Patience is inspired by hope for my circumstances when I read about and set my mind on eternity.
Patience is inspired by mercy for others when I ask God to let me see the other person as He sees them.
Patience has purpose
When we are annoyed at our husband, our reaction is, “They need to change!”

- We tell them they need to change.
- We pray that they will change.
- We expect them to change.
Lies about marriage:

- Marriage partners outgrow each other or grow apart from each other.
- Marriage is meant to make you happy so if your spouse does not make you happy for any reason, you should move on.
- Marriages die and there is nothing one can do once they are dead.
“The Lord does not delay and is not tardy or slow about what He promises, according to some people’s conception of slowness, but He is long-suffering (extraordinarily patient) toward you, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance.”

2 Peter 3:9 (AMP)
“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me & gave himself for me.”

Galatians 2:20(NIV)
“If you want to be more like Jesus, get married. It will force you to serve someone else every day.”
“I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong (virtuous!) and take heart and wait for the LORD.”

Psalm 27:13-14 (NIV)
PARAPHRASE:

“I will remain confident that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the places of my marriage that are hard and in the things about my husband that I wish were different. I will wait for the LORD and the change He works in me instead of waiting for my husband to change. I will be strong in all God calls me to say and do (or not say & not do). I will take heart today and wait for the Lord to show up in my marriage someday, in ways I never dreamed possible.”
Hillsong Video

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDAITgJXO1l