

*From March 22, 2009 Sermon...*

## "A WORK IN PROGRESS"

Most of us recognize that patience is one of the cardinal Christian virtues – we're just in no hurry to obtain it. In today's fast-paced, self-centered culture, patience is quickly disappearing.

Yet, patience is not optional for the Christian. Scripture repeatedly commands us to demonstrate patience. Christians are called to "**put on**" the virtues of "**compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience**" (Col. 3:12).

The good news is, under Christ's watchful eye and continuous molding, we can develop virtues like self-control, purity of motive and patience. But, there can be no growth without challenge.

Patience begins with the affirmation that God is sovereign and in control of our lives. All Christ needs is our permission to build and He will make all things new for us.

As we strive for a closer walk with Christ, we need to be mindful that the Christian life is not a single event. There is no quick fix where we will suddenly become "fully developed mature" Christians. **The Christian life is a process – it is a journey – it is a work in progress.**

*Be blessed. Clarice*