Dessert for Those Who Are Still Hungry!

August 8, 2021, South Hill Bible Church

Ephesians 4:2 reads... with all humility and gentleness, with patience, **putting up with one** *another in love*, (NET, LEB)

This verse teaches that in Christ, we have the ability to

- act in humility,
- speak in gentleness,
- wait in patience, and
- exercise tolerant love.

Of those areas, which is the most difficult for you? Which is the easiest? Why do you think that is?

Colossians 3:13 reads ... bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if someone happens to have a complaint against anyone else. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also forgive others. NET

Here are the evaluative questions to help determine if you should take action:

- 1. "*A person's wisdom has made him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.*" Proverbs 19:11 Is this issue big enough to even address?
- 2. *"The tongue of the wise makes knowledge pleasant, but the mouth of fools spouts foolishness."* Proverbs 15:2 How can I say this so that it is welcomed?
- 3. "But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him." James 1:5 Am I praying continuously for God's wisdom?
- 4. *"The wise of heart is called discerning, and sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness."* Proverbs 16:21 How can I say this so that it is welcomed?

What areas in your life do other people have to put up with? Take a moment to prayerfully evaluate yourself and ask the Lord for His insight and power to grow where needed.

Make this your daily prayer this week: Father, give me the grace to see myself as others see me. Show me how I needlessly irritate them. Bring into my life those who are willing to "speak the truth in love." Teach me to bear with your family. Grant us the unity of your Spirit and the bonds of peace. Amen.