

Patience

- I tend to get focused on the _____ that I want to get done for my Ecclesia, and quickly start to forget the _____ that actually make up my Ecclesia
- My _____ is often **MORE IMPORTANT** to me than my Brothers and Sisters
- I justify my not being a very _____ Brother to you by being a _____ Brother
- I want to be the kind of Brother who doesn't get upset when God puts someone in my path who needs some _____ and helping them is going to totally throw off my _____
- God _____ your commitment to Him by bringing opportunities to serve into your life at the times that are the **LEAST** _____!
- Let's be clear, this may not be a _____ thing to do!
- It's not about you being _____! It's about you learning _____!
- My lack of Patience is born out of a clear and definite belief that what I have planned to do is _____, and that my time is _____, and that I need to really _____ on my time
- For me, learning _____ is an important part of learning how to _____ my Brothers and Sisters, and learning how to _____ in my Heavenly Father

Patience

PATIENCE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Do you think that Patience comes naturally? Are some people born more Patient than others? What are the implications of this?

What role does God play in developing Patience in our lives? What is our part in the process? What personal issues can hinder the growth of Patience?

What are some situations in which you get frustrated and lose your Patience? Do you notice any patterns?

Does today's society and way of living encourage Patience? How can we respond to societal influences in this area?

How would your life be different if you were to exhibit more Patience? How would an increase in Patience affect your walk with God? Your relationship with others?

How do you respond when God interrupts your schedule or plans? Do you leave yourself open to the work that God brings to you? Likewise, how do you respond when a family member, friend or coworker interrupts your schedule or plans? What is the difference?

Perseverance and Patience are often connected in the same verses. Why do these two traits go hand in hand? What is the difference between them? Do you consider yourself better in one of these areas over the other?

How does the Parable of the Sower illustrate that Patience is an important part of spiritual growth?

Read **2nd Peter 3:8-9** and discuss the differences between God's timing and Man's timing.

Pride

"A feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's own _____ or _____ that are widely admired, or one's own _____"

- Pride is often connected with _____ others
- Humility isn't thinking _____ of yourself, it's thinking of yourself _____
- The key to fighting pride is to think _____ about your Brothers and Sisters than _____
- To make a _____ decision to _____ your opinion of someone
- Part of the challenge of Pride is thinking that you are the smartest person in the room

• **Seven Signs of Pride**

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____
- 7) _____

Pride

PRIDE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Do you get irritated when you get corrected for making mistakes? Do you find yourself going on the offensive against the person correcting you?

Do you find it difficult to admit it when you make a mistake? Do you excuse it or justify it? How does this affect our relationships?

Have you ever found yourself defending a position that you no longer are able to support? What percent of our Ecclesial problems do you think involve Pride?

Do you find it difficult to seek the counsel of other people? Do you feel more comfortable in the role of teacher, and not student? Have you stopped learning from others entirely?

Do you have a spirit of competition that measures success by victory over others? Is it possible to be involved in competitive contests and not struggle with this?

Are you discontent with what you have, and you want more - not necessarily more for yourself, but more than somebody else has?

To what amount do the actions of others affect your decisions about yourself?

Do you resonate with the definition of Humility that says, "*Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less*"? What are the implications in your life if you truly think this way?

Read **2nd Corinthians 12:8-10** and discuss how Pride affects God's ability to work through us.

Pornography

- **Five Ways Pornography Hurts You**

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

- **Six Steps in Fighting the Battle Against Sin**

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____

- **The Opposite of Pornography is _____**

- **Seven Keys for Accountability Partners**

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____
- 7) _____

Pornography

PORNOGRAPHY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Do you feel that this is an important issue in the Brotherhood, or is it really something that each individual has to deal with on their own? How could this affect us as a Community?

What are the ways that Pornography can affect a marriage? What is the difference between a godly desire for sex, and lust?

Shame and Guilt are the immediate result of Pornography. How do Shame and Guilt conspire together to make things worse for the offender? How do you get past the feelings of Guilt and Shame? Should you?

Rationalizing, vowing to never commit the same sin again and berating ourselves are all human attempts to feel forgiven. How and why?

Of all the sins we normally commit, nothing makes us feel more guilty than sexual sin. Why do you think that is?

John 3:20 talks about sinners fearing to come into the light because their deeds will be exposed. What happens when sin is brought into the light? What things can your Ecclesia do to promote this type of healing?

What is the difference between becoming addicted to alcohol or drugs and becoming addicted to Pornography (or sex)? Is it even fair to use the word "Addiction" when it comes to Pornography?

Read **Mark 7:20-23** and discuss the root of the sin of Pornography. The real issue is what drives us to look at Pornography. What would be some helpful suggestions for a Brother to learn to control his sexual drive? Discuss how frequent use of Pornography might heighten the drive and make things worse.

Prayer

- You can seek God **EARLY** in the _____ or you can seek Him **EARLY** in the _____
- It's a good idea to have a _____ to pray
- You can **LIFT UP HOLY HANDS** _____ or you can **LIFT UP HOLY HANDS** by _____
- If you pray 3 times a day for _____, then why not pray more than that every day for _____
- I want to be the kind of Brother who doesn't get upset when God puts someone in my path who needs some _____ and helping them is going to totally throw off my _____

- **Five Tips to Improve your Prayers**

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

- Jesus taught us in **Matthew 6** to:

- Not be _____ when you pray
- Pray _____
- Don't _____
- Because _____

Prayer

PRAYER DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Have you noticed a correlation in your life between Prayer Quantity and Prayer Quality? Do we sometimes fool ourselves into thinking that we have an active Prayer Life because we pray so often?

What are the differences between Personal Prayers and Group Prayers? Can Group Prayers develop our relationship with God?

What advice would you give to a Brother who finds himself distracted every time that he attempts to Pray?

How do we learn to Pray? Does anyone ever really teach us, or do we just pick things up on our own?

What should you do when you just don't feel like Praying? What ways can you motivate yourself, not out of guilt, but out of your love for God?

We've talked about Patience, Pride and Pornography. How do these topics relate to your Prayers?

Why do we naturally tend to gravitate towards flowery sentences when praying? What do we think we are accomplishing by doing so?

Why is regularity in prayer so important? When have you best succeeded in praying regularly? What did you learn from that experience?

What experiences have you had with God answering Prayer? How have these consciously and sub-consciously affected your Prayer Life?

Read **Luke 18:1-8** and discuss what this teaches us about our attitude towards Prayer versus God's attitude towards Prayer.