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Responding with patience when you're provoked shows gratitude to God and love for one another.

*Ephesians 4:1-3*

1. Receive the patient love of God.

*Ephesians 3:16-21*

2. Resolve conflict by talking to the person, not about them.

*Matthew 18:15-16; Proverbs 16:28; Ephesians 4:3*

3. Release the record of wrong.

*1 Peter 4:8*

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## Small Group Outline & Discussion Questions

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### Connect:

Have each person share a high and low from this past week.

### Consider:

Responding with patience when you're provoked shows gratitude to God and love for one another.

*Choose one or two questions for your group to discuss as time allows.*

- ▶ When provoked, are you more likely to respond externally with words or internally with thoughts?
- ▶ Read Ephesians 4:1-3. How can we be prepared to respond with patience when provoked?
- ▶ How has God shown patience to you? How does considering God's patience empower us to show patience to others?
- ▶ When resolving conflict, how should believers decide whether to talk to a person or internally release the situation?

### Commit:

*Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with these questions then share your thoughts.*

Read Ephesians 4:1-3:

- What current situation do you need to have a patient perspective toward?
- How can you move toward resolving the conflict by talking to the person or internally releasing the situation?

### Care:

*Thank God for the highs mentioned earlier and remember the lows in prayer.*

Pray Ephesians 3:16-21 for your group, our church, and all those who belong to the family of faith.