

# Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2025.04.20

Website: [oakgrovecofc.org](http://oakgrovecofc.org)

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## Sermon recordings

Scan the QR code below with your phone's cam, or visit [oakgrovecofc.org/sermons](http://oakgrovecofc.org/sermons).

**Speaker-AM:** Rob Moreland

**Title:** Patience

**Recording:**



**Speaker-PM:** Kraig Benney

**Title:** Peace, Perfect Peace

**Recording:**



### Application

**Ecclesiastes 7:8:**

"patience is better than pride"

**Galatians 5:22-23**

Lists patience as one of the fruits of the Spirit.

**1 Corinthians 13:4:**

"Love is patient and kind."

**Colossians 3:12:**

"Clothe yourselves with a heart of patience"

**Psalms 37:7:**

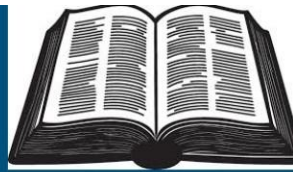
"Wait patiently for the Lord!"

**Ephesians 4:2:**

Urges us to be patient and bear with one another in love.

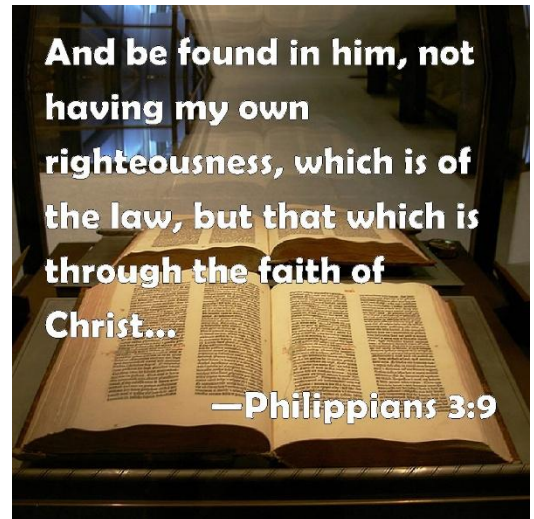
**2 Timothy 4:2:**

"exhort with complete patience and instruction"



And be found in him, not  
having my own  
righteousness, which is of  
the law, but that which is  
through the faith of  
Christ...

—Philippians 3:9



## **Articles**

### **Churches That Work, 4/20/25 By Sam Bunyard**

American culture has created a corrupt consumer Christianity which exalts leadership to a position of being responsible for all the work – all the evangelism, the teaching, the accountability, the caring for the needy. The church doesn't work – only those 'on staff'. That's not God's design!

It's not our goal in this church to provide a service for the consumer. It is our goal to spend as much time together as possible, "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as [we] see the Day approaching" (Heb. 10:25)!

Antioch is where disciples were first called Christians (Ac. 11:26). This designation was well-earned, as the gospel was spread there with such success that news travelled to Jerusalem and attracted the attention of Barnabas and Paul (vs20-25). When Jerusalem was threatened by famine, "the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren" (v29). Though there were elders in Antioch (v30), the preaching and teaching was done by several men: Barnabas, Simeon, Lucius, Manaen, and Paul (13:1). The entire congregation gathered to hear Paul's report about his missionary journey (14:27). The whole congregation was invested in the work!

Disciples in Thessalonica were met with persecution instantly upon their conversion (17:5). But even in this environment, they "became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place."

It is amazing what God's people can accomplish when "every part does its share" (Eph. 4:16)! It is when we recognize that the purpose of local "evangelists, pastors and teachers" is to "equip the saints for the work" that we can really grow! (vs11-12)! We must be a church that works!

### **The Impactful Life, 4/20/2025 By Warren King**

The largest funeral I ever preached was in a high school auditorium in front of 800 people. It was for a young Christian man around 18 years old. The smallest have been for people I never met, who had no friends, and were done as a favor for the local funeral director – three attendees including me and my wife.

It is no surprise when a large crowd turns out to pay their respects for someone who has had an impact in their life. Like the Jews who came to console the sisters of dead Lazarus (Jn 11:31), we want to acknowledge the difference they have made in our lives. And we want to assure their loved ones of that impact as well.

But what makes a person impactful? Why do some people impact us more than others? Large families, lots of friends, visibility in the community (or beyond) – all of these will certainly affect the number of people who show up at your funeral. But there is more.

The person who is genuinely kind and compassionate, because of their loyalty to Jesus, will have a great impact on all who know them, whether many or few (Pr 10:7, etc.) - because they make a difference.

So, thank you, Alex, for the impact you have had on so many – for now and for eternity.