

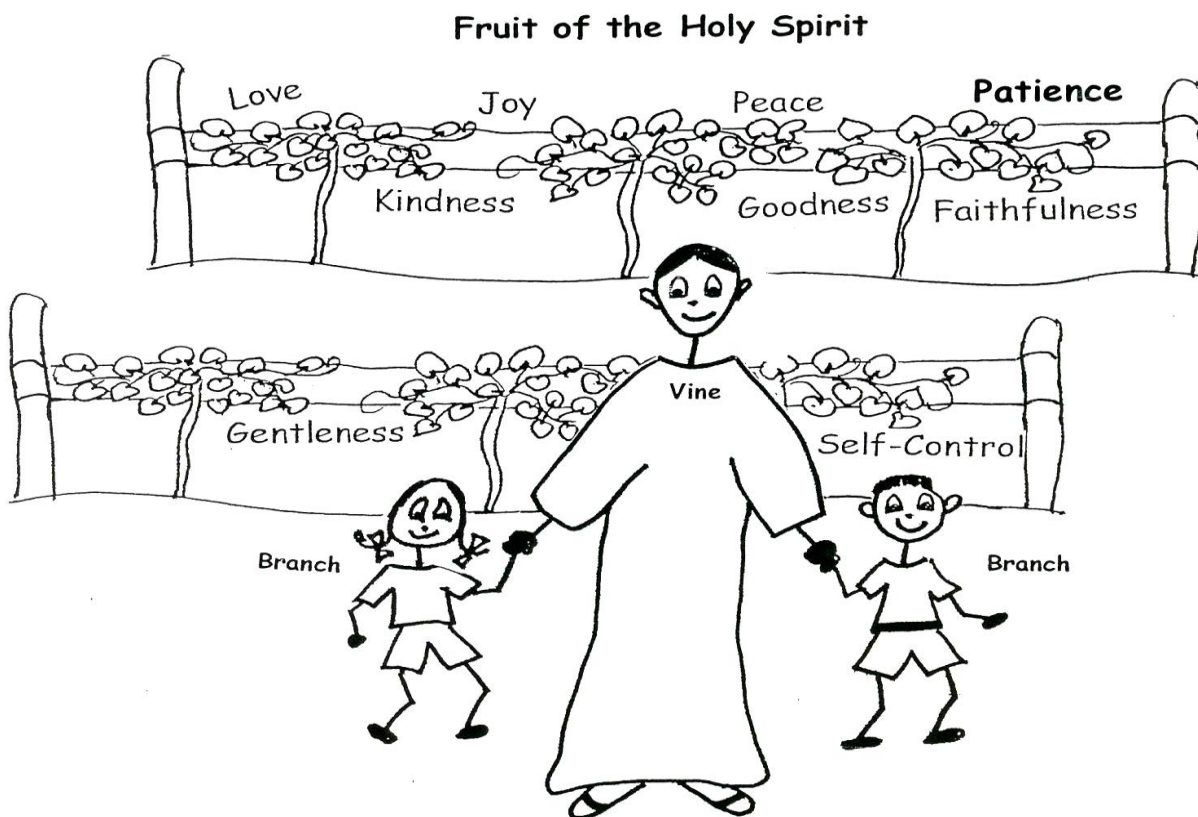
Wait for the Lord

Revised 8-7-2014

Isaiah 40:31 Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles. They will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.

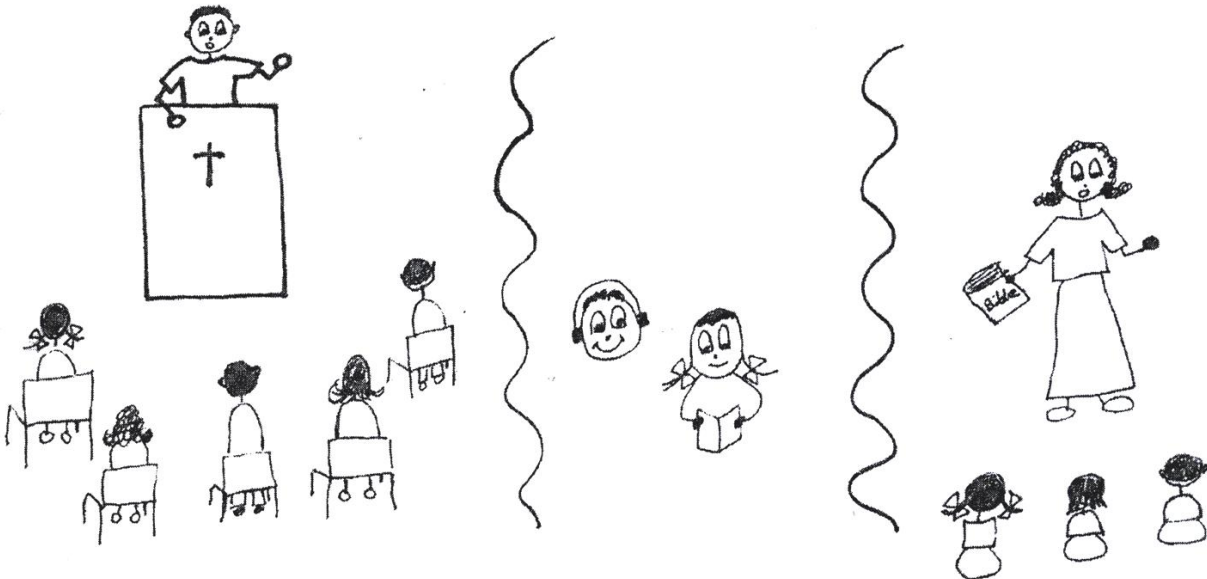
"**Those who wait**" comes from the verb **qavah**. It means to wait or look eagerly for, linger for, expect. When times are tough, we can **wait** and **expect** the Lord to come through for us! In fact, that is what He wants us to do. When we can't see or understand what God is doing in our lives, He wants us to be still and wait for Him. He is trying to develop **patience** and **perseverance** in our inner man or our new man*.

*Go to allaboardgodstrain.org and read *Newness of Life In Christ* and *More About the Newness of Life In Christ*.



God has available two kinds of **patience** to help us. The first is **makrothumia**. It means slow to anger or being calm toward people who are mistreating us. It means we don't complain or get irritated with people. It is the opposite of being angry and revengeful. It is keeping our cool when someone is in our face! **IMPOSSIBLE**, you say! On our own, that is right. However, **God** can teach us and develop in us **patience*** with people.

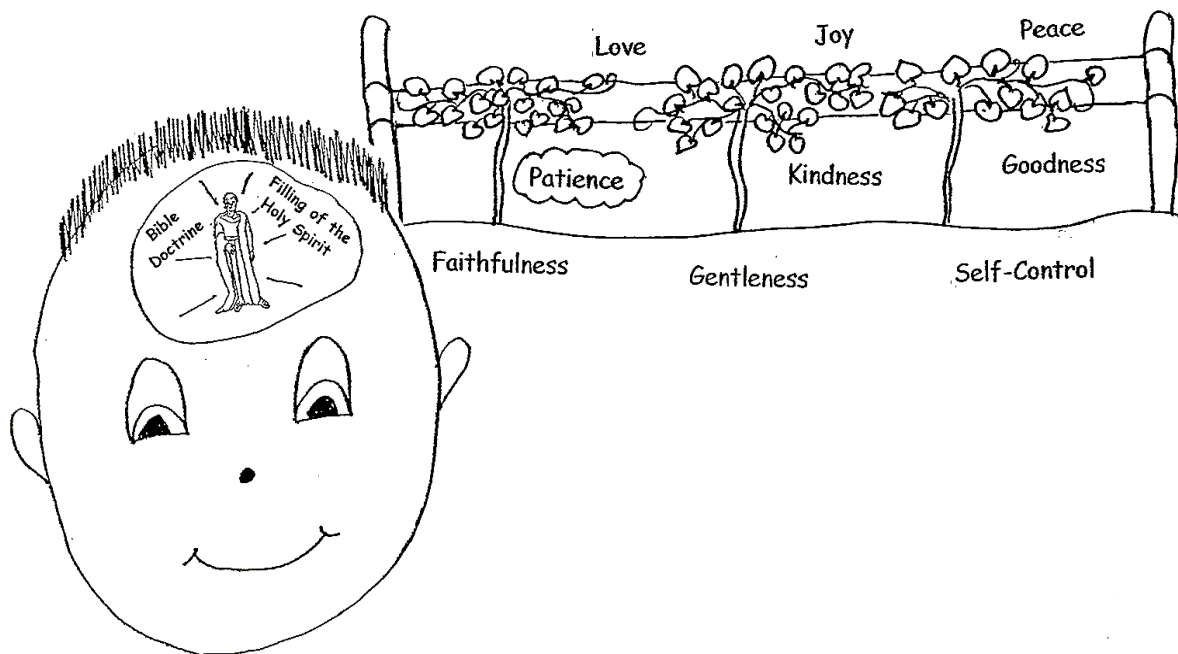
*Go to allaboardgodstrain.org and read *Fruit of the Spirit - Part 4 - PATIENCE*.



Luke 6:27-35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men."

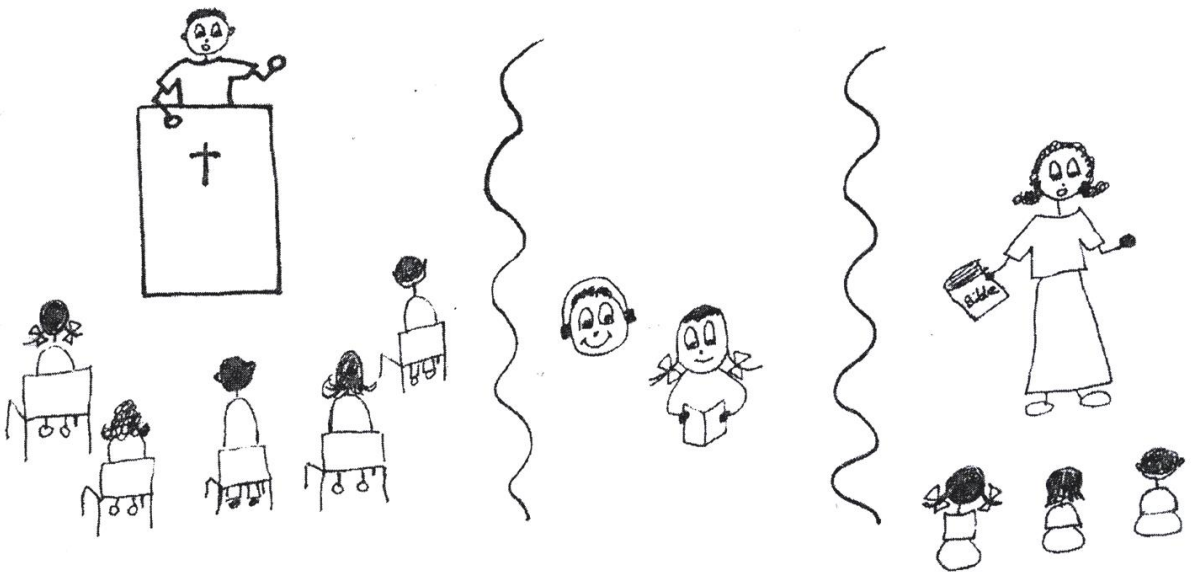
First we have **faith*** - we learn and **believe** the word of God through the power of God the Holy Spirit. The more capacity we have from God's word, the more He will allow our **faith** to be tested. God will make sure we have available to us the doctrine we need before being tested. It's up to us to allow time to study it. He wants us to see that His thinking and power can get us through anything. God can teach us how to control our anger and have **patience** with people. He can teach us to love!

*Go to allaboardgodstrain.org and read *Faith - This Life I Live by Faith in the Son of God*.



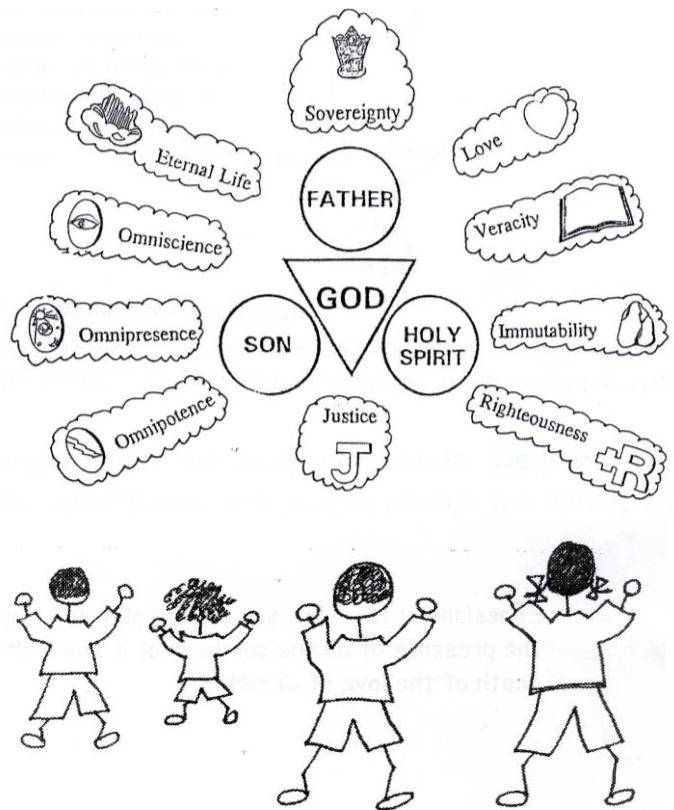
1 Corinthians 13:4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

The second kind of **patience** is **hupomone**, or **perseverance**. It means to continue on or persevere when there are difficult circumstances. It means not being a coward and quitting when the going gets tough! It means putting up with **suffering, affliction and persecution**. "Ouch", you say? Don't be afraid! God takes away the "ouch" by giving us His promises to have faith in. When we have **perseverance**, we know the Lord is going to come through for us and rescue us! He'll rescue us with His thinking from the Bible; He may even take the physical suffering away. We get this kind of **patience** the same way we get **makrothumia**, through learning, believing and using the word of God. That's the only way we get it!



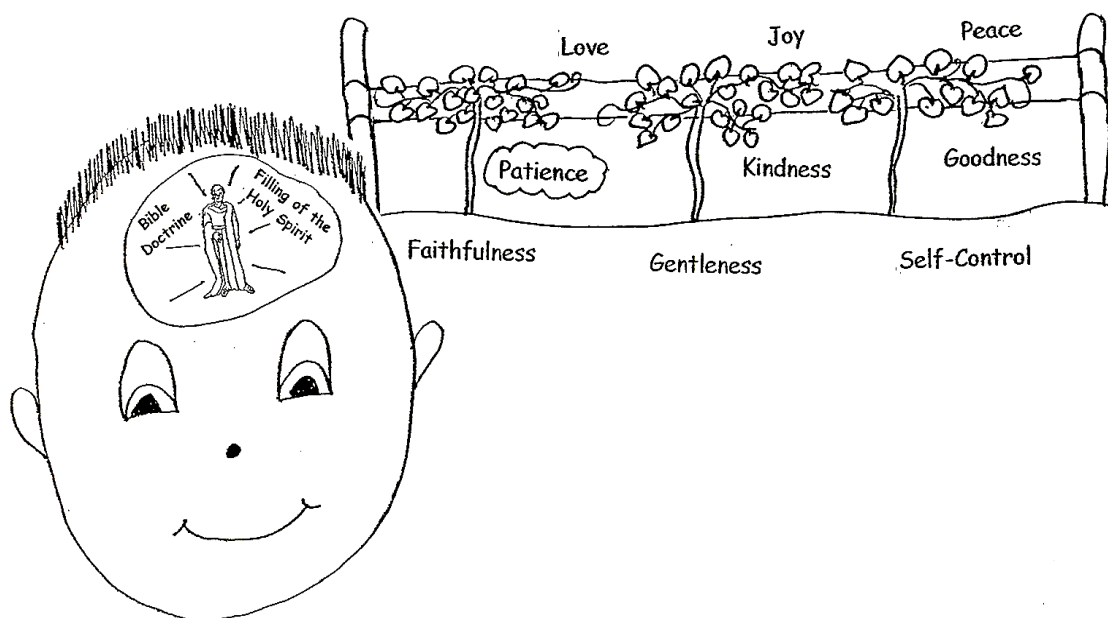
Colossians 1:11-12 Being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

Once we come to know and to love God, others and ourselves, God will allow circumstances which will test our capacity. He will see if we will apply His word and put up with circumstances we don't like. This takes a lot of God's thinking in our soul! God will allow sufferings after we've had the opportunity to develop **perseverance** and hope or confidence in Him. When we have **perseverance**, God knows we won't be easily distracted in times of sorrow because we have placed our expectations in Him. He is the only One Who can fill our expectations!



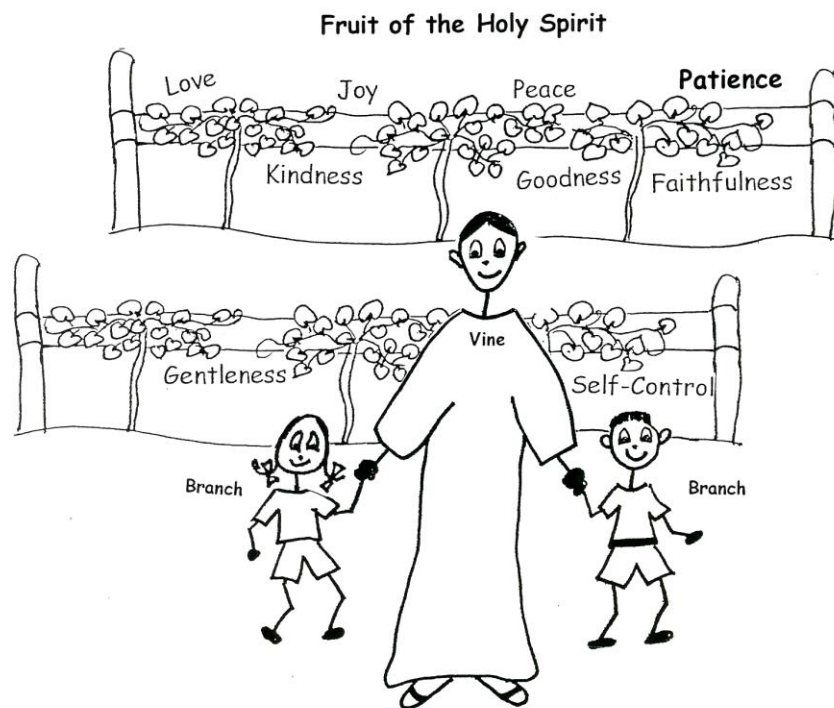
Psalm 103:8 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

Real **patience** can only come as a grace gift from God. That means we don't earn it nor deserve it. It comes from the two power options: knowledge of Bible doctrine and the almighty power of the Holy Spirit. We have to make decisions to use these two power options. The Holy Spirit wants to give us supernatural power and **patience** to deal with life! God wants to give us **His power!** To be able to deal with people and circumstances with **patience** is a fantastic gift from God!



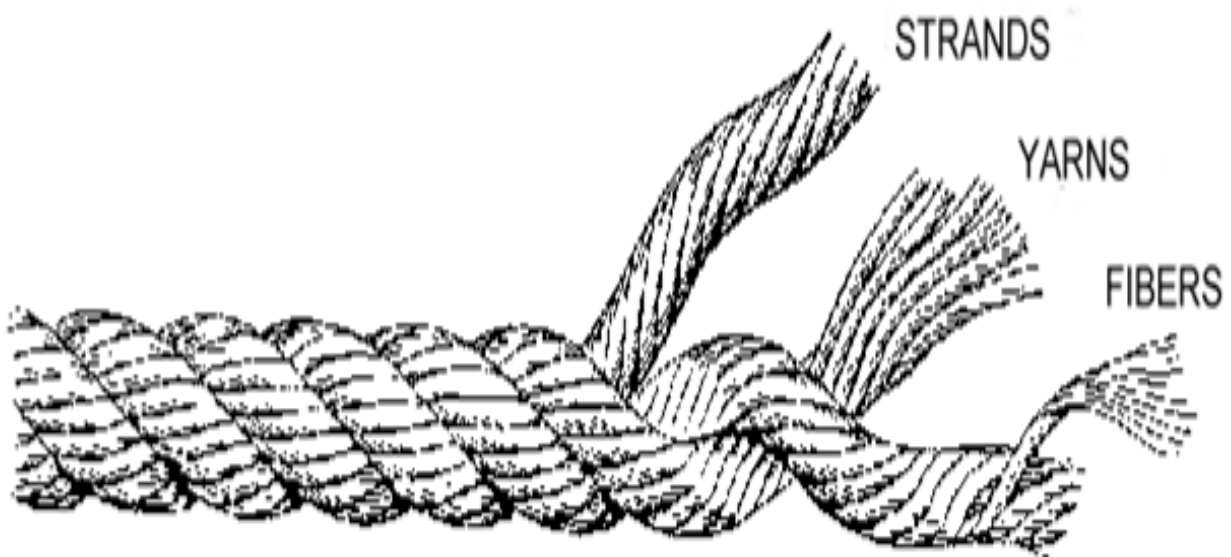
Colossians 1:10-11 So that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every [divine] good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power, according to His steadfastness [perseverance] and patience.

God doesn't want us to become impatient, run away from Him and try to live life on our own. He knows we are not naturally **patient** and **persevering**! We need supernatural **patience** - God's **patience**. The more of God's **patience** we learn about, know and practice, the more **persevering** we will become! He knows the exact places where we need to develop **patience**! If we are willing to wait for Him, God will do the work! We can rest in His "arms" and let Him do His job of making us **patient**!



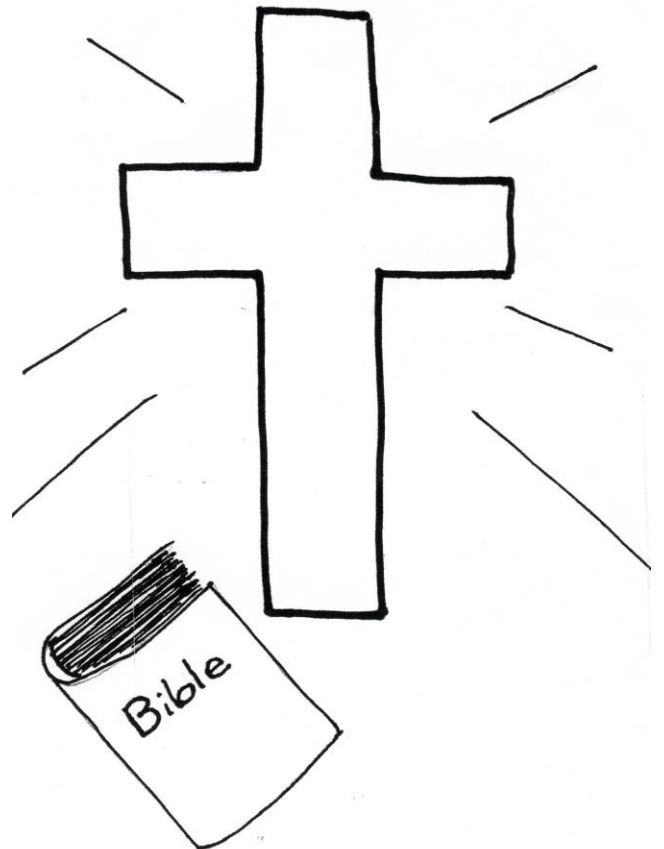
Romans 2:4 Or do you think lightly for the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance [change of mind]?

The original root meaning of **qavah** - "those who wait" - meant to collect, bind together, perhaps twisting. It was picturing a fine thread woven into a giant rope that cannot be broken. We take the fine thread of our **faith** and weave it together with the promises of God. Our thin **faith** joined with God's power and His word becomes a strong rope. Our **faith** gets its strength from God!

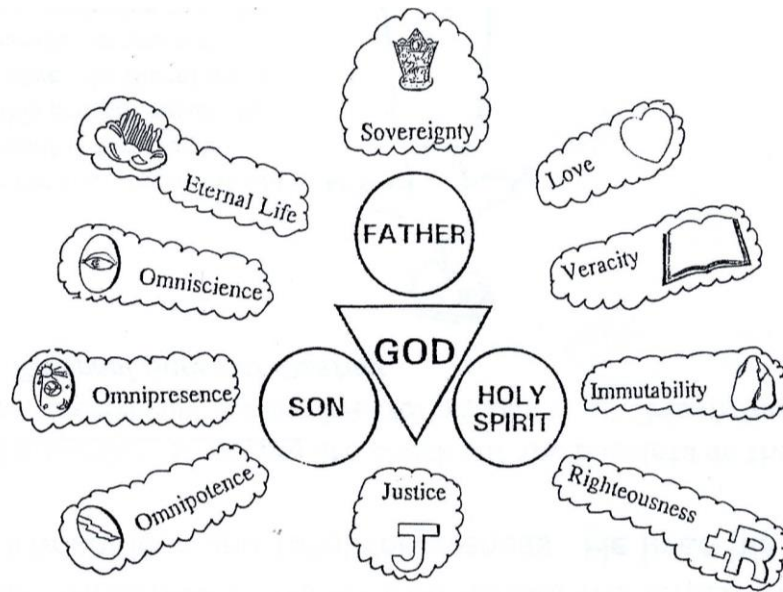


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There are times when there is tension in our life - in our rope. We have to **wait** for certain things and **endure** certain situations. Every thread, or every instance we wait for and endure, is an instance of faith in the spiritual life. It is evidence of our faith! This faith becomes an unbreakable bond between you/me and God. We experience it! God untwists our knots or tangles. The old ties - or old, bad habits - must be unraveled. Sorting things out and getting rid of tangles or bad habits takes time. However, our Father is in the rope business. As we take a thin thread from our problem to God, He builds it into stronger faith. During the quiet moments, when we don't think God is doing anything with us, He is growing us! We are to **wait** for the Lord!



Psalm 27:14 Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord.



Our God is an awesome God!



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