

BE PREPARED FOR WHAT YOU PRAY

Christian Character Gained the Hard Way

INTRO: *Believers don't immediately become Christlike at the moment of personal salvation. Becoming Christlike can even be **painful!***

I. God expects Believers to develop *Christlike*

_____ **as part of their** _____.

Several virtue lists in the New Testament confirm the characteristics desired by God among His children (Cf. Galatians 5:16-25).

II. Believers praying for *Christlike* _____ **may**

be expecting to receive it _____.

Ours is a culture which expects instant-gratification. Praying Believers may not be prepared for God's answer.

III. *Be prepared for what you pray; Some Christlike*

_____ **is only gained through** _____

processes. *Three character traits are specifically mentioned here because of the perceived anxiety experienced in their absence.*

A. _____ is learned through _____.

(Cf. Hebrews 5:8) If even Jesus traveled this path, why should we not be expected to travel the same?

B. _____ is learned through _____

_____. *(Cf. Philippians 4:10-14) This trait is oft misidentified because of the overemphasis on verse 14.*

C. _____ is learned through _____.

*(Cf. James 1:2-4) This trait is similar to what we often refer to as **patience**.*