

Be Like Goldie?

GOLDIE



The “best” dog in the world

A new hat, A new (hair) DO, a Bath, a ride on a motorbike...

Goldie is SO patient.. from the pictures you can see that she lets me DO just about anything to her:) She lets me cut her hair, dress her up, put her on a motorcycle with sunglasses on, she bows to her sensai, she’s even been a painter:) Goldie is arguably the “best dog in the world” as she patiently endures



Enduring....patiently

The Bible says in Hebrews that we have NEED of ENDURANCE. (Heb. 10:36) It seems like one of the few things we are told we need ... endurance. But how do we “get” endurance? Is it “given” as a gift from God? Absolutely NOT! There’s only one way to get endurance, and that is to endure! Endure trials that is...*James 1:2-3 says, “Count it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.....* Sure, we can endure hardship and trials (and we will, that is a promise), but are we PATIENTLY enduring?

What does it look like to “patiently endure?” Well, I think it looks a little like Goldie

As Goldie is to me (on some level), is how I would like to be to my Heavenly Father... I would so like to bring Him pleasure by doing His will, by being obedient to what He wants...as I endure “hardship,” I want to be cooperative, not contrary, submissive, not complaining, pliable, not rebellious, I want to be PATIENT... Goldie doesn’t understand what I’m doing with her, but somehow she just trusts me. It’s because of this attitude that I think Goldie is the “best dog in the world!” In the same way, I want to trust even when I don’t understand, I want to be patient in trials, and in that I would like to be the **“the best human in the world”** to my Master and Savior Jesus Christ:)

Perfect?

....and let endurance have it perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in NOTHING! (emphasis added)

You see, while it’s true that Goldie gives me a lot of pleasure, she is also not exactly perfect. I’m pretty sure there are better behaved dogs out there; and dogs that don’t rip up the garbage or go the other way when you call them, or bolt out the front door without an invitation, or jump up on people, etc., All that being said, I don’t think that’s what the scripture is referring to with the words, “perfect and complete.”

Honestly, do you really think God expects us to never sin again when we get saved? No, that’s why He gave us 1 Jn. 1:9 and 1 Jn. 2:1. (However, we should strive every second to be more and more obedient to God and to His Word.) I believe the word “perfect” here is referring to a “wholeness,” “completeness,” a “wanting for nothing,” “fullness.” We can be rich if we will embrace our trials and see them as the vehicle that brings us to endurance which, in turn, leads us safely to the place where we need and want for nothing. Am I perfect? No, but it’s not my job to be, it’s God’s job to perfect the work that He began in me! Isn’t that encouraging?

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In conclusion: turns out, Goldie and I aren’t so different after all. She and I both know who our MASTER is and we want to please that master more than anything...the only thing I may be missing is that whole “patiently” enduring part....you know, the **“cooperative, not contrary, submissive, not complaining, pliable, not rebellious”** thing that Goldie has got down pat!

Lord, please help me to be to You as Goldie is to me...

...enduring patiently, even when I don’t understand, because I know You love me, I want to trust in your ways, and obey all Your commands... Lord, I just want to please You.

