

HOW TO WAIT PATIENTLY

James 5:7-11

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. WHAT PATIENCE IS
2. THE KIND OF PATIENCE WE NEED
 - Patience with life
 - Patience with people
 - Patience in suffering
 - Patience with God
3. HOW TO DEVELOP THIS KIND OF PATIENCE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. Patience can sometimes be seen as a lack of initiative in our culture. What is the difference between patience and passivity?
3. Patience is the ability to keep going when you aren't getting what you do want (like a farmer waiting on a crop) and the ability to stand unmoved when you are getting what you don't want (like Job). Are there any ways you currently feel like a farmer waiting to see if all the work you've done is worth it? Are there any ways you currently feel like you need endurance in the midst of suffering?
4. In James 5:7-11, we can see four types of patience we need: patience with life, patience with people, patience in suffering and patience with God. Where do you feel most impatient right now? Was anything out of James 5:7-11 helpful in that particular situation?
5. Our impatience with other people leads to what James calls "grumbling." Who do you grumble about? Why is grumbling a big deal? How do we stop grumbling?
6. Our impatience with God is what leads to every other kind of impatience in our lives. That's why James references the return of Jesus three times in this short passage. What are some things that have helped you develop the ability to wait on God? What does it look like to wait on God?
7. What are some specific examples of God's patience? (Note: You can give examples from the Bible, world history, your personal life, etc.)

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: Because of Jesus, even if you don't know "why" you are going through what you are going through, you can be sure it isn't because God doesn't love you.