

March 5, 2023

Patience
James 5:7-12
Pastor Kirk Gambrell

Vol. 13 Num. 10

Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

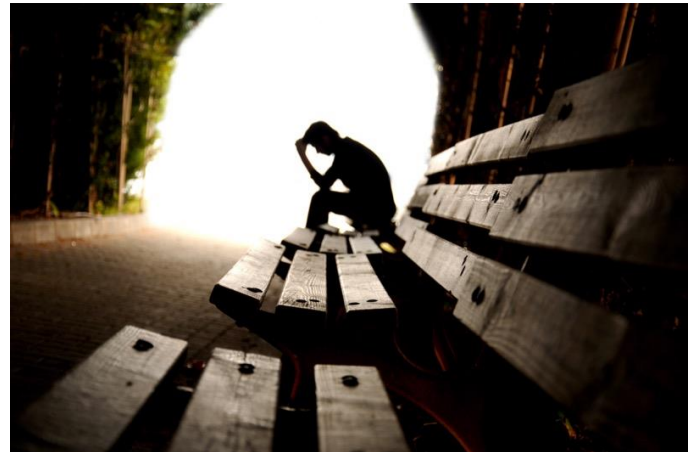
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we continue looking at James chapter 5. This section talks about patience and suffering. When we are dealing with difficult times in our lives, simply being told to be patient is not always the most comforting thing to hear. James acknowledges the suffering that we are enduring as well as the suffering that has been endured by those that have come before us. Our patience is being tested. We must remember the good that comes from the trials that we are facing. Join us this week as we talk about suffering and the reason that we can confidently be patient waiting on the Lord.



JAMES 5:7-12 NET

Patience in Suffering

7 So be patient, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's return. Think of how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the ground and is patient for it until it receives the early and late rains. 8 You also be patient and strengthen your hearts, for the Lord's return is near. 9 Do not grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be judged. See, the judge stands before the gates! 10 As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the Lord's name. 11 Think of how we regard as blessed those who have endured. You have heard of Job's endurance and you have seen the Lord's purpose, that *the Lord is full of compassion and mercy*. 12 And above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath. But let your "Yes" be yes and your "No" be no, so that you may not fall into judgment.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

1.

2.

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10.

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

1. How is waiting for the Lord like waiting for a plant to grow its fruit?
2. Does a lack of grumbling prevent judgment?
3. How are the prophets an example of suffering and patience?
4. What was the Lord's purpose in His dealing with Job as referenced in verse 11?
5. Why do you think James instructs his readers not to swear an oath?
6. How does verse 12 describe avoiding judgment?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

7. Should we practice patience the same as James' audience? Why?

8. Why do you think God allows suffering and seems to just say be patient? Is there more to it?

9. Is Job a comforting example of suffering? Why do you think James points him out?

10. Twice this passage talks about avoiding judgment. Are there things we should do to avoid judgment?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes