

Bible Study Packet

The Fruit of the Spirit: Patience



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The Fruit of the Spirit
Read Galatians 5:16-26

Patience: The Benefits of Waiting
For this lesson read: James 5:7-11

1. Read James 5:7-11. What specific elements of patience do you glean from this passage?
2. How does perspective equip us to be patient?
3. James tells his readers to “be patient...until the Lord’s return” (verse 7). How does this speak to both the duration and the ultimate remedy of Christian suffering?

7. How can our realization that the day of judgement is imminent (“the Judge is standing at the door”) provide the antidote to our grumbling?

8. James’ second example is the prophets (see verse 10). The author of Hebrews includes the prophets when he says: They went out wearing skin of sheep and goats, destitute and oppressed and mistreated...All these people earned a good reputation because of faith, yet none of them received all that God had promised (Hebrews 11:37 & 39). What do the prophets teach us about living out godly patience?

9. What does James mean when he says, “We give great honor to those who endure under suffering”? (Verse 11)

10. How were the prophets blessed?

11. James' final example of patience and perseverance is Job (see verse 11).
Based on what you know about the book of Job, why is he a good example for us today?

12. How does patience help us exhibit the other aspects of the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control?

13. How do hardships, difficulties, or painful experiences make you impatient?

14. What have you learned from the examples in this passage that can equip you to pursue patience during suffering?

15. Read Hebrews 11. How do these people of faith demonstrate patience, perseverance, and hope?