



Redeeming Notes

Pastor John Niewald

August 22, 2004

Living Out A Faith That Works
"How to Develop Patience"
James 5:7-12

Learning to wait is a hard lesson to learn in life.
James shows us when, why, and how to develop patience.

I. WHEN TO BE PATIENT

- **When circumstances are uncontrollable**
"Be patient then brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is..." (v. 7)
- **When people are unchangeable**
"As an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord." (v. 10)
- **When problems are unexplainable**
"You have heard of Job's perseverance ..." (v. 11b)

II. WHY BE PATIENT

- Because **God is in control**
"Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near." (v. 8)
"... resting your hearts on the ultimate certainty ..." (Ph)
- Because **God rewards patience**
"As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered." (v. 11a)
"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven ..." Matt. 5:13-14
- Because **God is working things out**
"You have heard of Job's perseverance, and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy." (v. 11b)

III. HOW TO BE PATIENT

(What to do while you're waiting on God)

- **Wait expectantly** (v. 7)
"... I wait expectantly, trusting God to help, for He has promised."
Ps. 130:5 (LB)
"The Lord says... No one who waits for my help will be disappointed."
Isa. 49:23 (GN)
- **Wait quietly** (v. 9)
"It is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord." Lam. 3:26

"These things won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, do not despair; for these things will surely come to pass. Just be patient! They will not be overdue a single day!" Hab. 2:3 (LB)
- **Wait confidently** (v. 11b)
"I will wait confidently for God ..." Micah 7:7

Hope is: **Holding On Praying Expectantly**

"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him to act." Ps. 37:7

READING PLAN: *Meditate deeply on these connections from this week's teaching, asking yourself: 1) What does it say in general? 2) What is it directly saying to me? 3) How can I apply it in my life?*

Monday – James 5:7-12

Tuesday – James 5:9, Matthew 24:3-14

Wednesday – James 5:10, Matthew 5:1-12

Thursday - James 5:12, Matthew 5:33-37

Friday – Psalm 103

FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

- 1) What uncontrollable circumstances, unchangeable person, or unexplainable problem do you have in your life right now?
- 2) Where do you need patience in those situations?
- 3) James 5:8 says that God is in control, share an area from your life where you struggle to let God have control.
- 4) The illustrations from the text say that we are to wait expectantly, quietly, and confidently. Which one is the easiest and hardest for you? (Pray for each other.)