

JAMES

MARK IT UP

James 5:7-12 Discussion Guide

Week of 5/22/22

Icebreaker: What situations make you feel most impatient?

Getting Started: Read James 5:7-12 as a group.

1. In verse 7, James commands the believers to be patient until the coming of the Lord. What do you think it looks like for believers who are suffering to be patient?

Application: Think of a time or situation where you were suffering for some reason. How did that impact your ability to be patient?

2. The kind of patience prescribed in this passage is like the patience of the farmer described in the second half of verse 7. What do you notice about the farmer's patience that could help us understand what it means to be patient in this way?

Application: What do you think this kind of patience means for your life if you are also to "be patient...until the coming of the Lord"?

3. *Application:* The word "establish" in verse 8 can also be taken as "strengthen." What do you think we can do to establish or strengthen our hearts until the coming of the Lord?

4. James calls the believers to look to the example of the prophets and Job in how they were steadfast. What do you think their examples can teach us?

Application: Whose example of steadfastness do you (or could you) look to for encouragement?

5. James highlights the character of the Lord in verse 11. Why do you think he includes this as he has been talking about the examples of people like the prophets and Job?

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fully devoted to loving God and loving others.*

Application: Why could it be really important for us to keep the Lord's character in mind as we wait for the Lord's coming?

6. Verses 9 and 12 stand out in this passage. Why do you think James includes these instructions related to our speech as he is talking about our need for patience?

Application: How are your words toward others impacted when you're feeling most impatient?