

Week 4 – Fruit of the Spirit: Patience

Proverbs 16:32

Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.

Ephesians 4:2

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

1 Peter 2:23

When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who[a] have been called according to his purpose.

Revelation 21:4

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.





Week 4 - Patience - James 5:7-11

KEY POINT: "THE DEPTH OF YOUR PATIENCE IS DETERMINED BY THE SIZE OF YOUR GOD."

SHORT FUSES (Impatience)

- In what areas, with which people or situations do you struggle with a "short fuse"?
- Whom have you criticized, grumbled against, or found fault against? Was this a result of something else you have not released to God? Consider confession to God to wash you clean, to mature you in this area. Consider approaching the one(s) you may have hurt to reconcile with them.

GOD'S INVITATION/REMEDY

1. TRUST HIS PLAN. REMEMBER, HE IS IN CONTROL. REREAD JAMES 5:7. ALSO READ ROMANS 8:28.

- In which area do you have difficulty waiting? (Where you'd be a grumpy, grumbling farmer waiting for the crops you've planted to flourish and be ready for harvest).
- Where has God been at work in unseen ways in your past to bring good out of what was lost, to surprise you with joy, blessing, or peace?
- 2. TRUST HIS JUSTICE. REREAD JAMES 5:8, 1 PETER 2:23 ALSO READ REVELATION 21:4
- Where have you personally struggled with a feeling that life has not been fair to you?
- Christ, whom we follow, endured injustice knowing that the Day of the LORD will set all things right. As Christ's follower, how can you plan now to endure persecution against you because you follow Christ?
- In what areas does God call you to advocate against injustice?Do you know how to do that in love, with the contentment He provides? Pray that He shows you His definition of injustice, that He shows you where your definition does not align with His, and where you may have committed injustice against someone. Also pray that He shows you if, when and how to take action against injustices against yourself or others.

3. TRUST HIS REWARD. REREAD JAMES 5:11. REVIEW YOUR NOTES ABOUT JOB FROM THE SERMON.

- "What we believe about our future completely controls how we are experiencing our present." How have you responded to tragic events in your life? What do you believe about this life and eternity?
- How was Job able to walk through his darkest life events?
- Which life event is looming over you now, where you need prayer and to trust the God who is with us (One of His names is Immanuel)?

