

Everyday Faith: *Growing an Everyday Faith Because Faith is Needed Every Day*
Sermon-Based Discussion/Reflection Questions
May 23rd, 2021

Everyday Faith: *Growing an Everyday Faith Because Faith is Needed Every Day*. In this 8-week study of the book of James as James, the brother of Jesus, teaches us to have an everyday faith that thrives in a world where faith is very much needed but not easy to build. Be here and lean in for Everyday Faith because faith is needed every day.

Everyday Faith: *Everyday Patience* - In **Week 7** of *Everyday Faith*, we looked at how James encourages us to be patient by giving us examples of what patience looks like with an everyday faith.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

Talk about a time when you had to be patient for a long season. What were you dealing with? Why was patience hard?

Where are you in a season of waiting where you might be tempted to grow impatient?

How would you define “patience”?

READ James 5:7-12

James gives us three examples to consider helping us understand patiently waiting. What can we learn from the examples of a farmer, the prophets, and Job?

James instructs us in James 5:7 to “be patient...until the Lord’s coming.” Throughout the passage he also anchors our hope and need for patience in the expectancy of the Lord’s return. Why do you think he does that? And why do you think this significant?

James says for us to consider the patience of a farmer. Doug asked these questions to help us consider the example of the farmer:

What am I hoping to see grow in the process of waiting patiently?

What am I planting in my life and in the world in the process of waiting patiently?

What is God’s role and what is mine in the process of waiting patiently?

What does it look like to “work the soil” in the process of waiting patiently?

Doug challenged us to *“be patient in the process. Celebrate the progress. Do good! And never lose sight of the truth that God is good.”*

While James challenges us to “stand firm”, Doug reminded us that standing firm is not standing still. Doug said that “Patiently waiting IS NOT passively waiting.” What does it look like for you specifically to be patient in the process in the process of waiting patiently?

What progress can you celebrate in God’s working in you and through you?

The memory verse for this week is **Galatians 6:9** *“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”* What observations do you make about this verse?

Doug challenged us to consider the question, "What is the good God wants me to do?" How would you answer that question?

Why do you think we doubt God's goodness? What are the proofs of God's goodness? What can we do to always be mindful of God's goodness?

NEXT STEPS: Everyone has a next step to apply what we have learned. What is your next step?

MEMORY VERSE: *Challenge your group to commit this verse to memory:

Galatians 6:9 *"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."*

PRAYER: Spend some time praying for each other for the areas of life where patience is required right now.

Scripture References: James 5:7-12; James 1:2-3, 12, 25; Hebrews 11:32-40; Galatians 6:9