

How to Develop Patience

Developing A Faith That Works - Part 13

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 ..."
(vs. 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." (vs. 10)

* **WHEN PROBLEMS ARE UNEXPLAINABLE**

"You have heard of Job's perseverance ..." (vs. 11b)

II. WHY BE PATIENT?

1. BECAUSE GOD IS IN CONTROL

"Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near." (vs. 8)
"... resting your hearts on the ultimate certainty ..." (Ph)

2. BECAUSE GOD REWARDS PATIENCE

"As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered." (vs. 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. 5:11-12

3. 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." (vs. 11b)

III. HOW TO BE PATIENT

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

1. WAIT EXPECTANTLY (vs. 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)

2. WAIT QUIETLY (vs.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)

3. WAIT CONFIDENTLY (vs. 11b)

"I will wait confidently for God ..." Micah 7:7

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