

john 15:4
A b i d e in **ME**



Bible studies for disciples who make disciples

Loudonville Community Church

Volume 6 - Number 21
The week of May 9, 2021

A Life Well Lived

Wait for It

Galatians 5:22; James 1:2-4; 5:7-11

“God has his set times. It is not for us to know them. Indeed, we cannot know them. We must wait for them. If God had told Abraham in Haran that he must wait all those years until he pressed the promised child to his bosom, his heart would have failed him. So, in gracious love, the length of the weary years was hidden. And only as they were nearly spent and there were only a few more months to wait, God told him, according to the time of life, ‘Sarah shall have a son.’”

“If God told you on the front end how long you would wait to find the fulfillment of your desire or pleasure or dream, you’d lose heart. You’d grow weary in well doing. So would I. But He doesn’t. He just says, ‘Wait. I keep my word. I’m in no hurry. In the process of time I’m developing you to be ready for the promise.’”
~ F.B. Meyer, *The Life of Abraham*

1. In what surprising or not so surprising ways has your patience been tested this past year?

STUDY NOTE

In Sunday’s message, Pastor Paul mentioned the two Greek words used in the New Testament to refer to patience or endurance. The first word, *hupomone*, refers mostly to the circumstances that test our patience (cf. James 1:2-4). The second word, *makrothumos* or longsuffering, means to be slow to anger or to become heated. It refers to either hard circumstances or difficult people who test our patience (cf. Galatians 5:22; James 5:7-11).

2. We all lose our patience from time to time. Do you find those times more often than not to involve circumstances or people? What is the main difference in situations when you are or are not impatient?

Read James 5:7-11.

7 “Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. 8 You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. 9 Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. 10 As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 11 Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.”

3. What is the context of this passage? (**Read 5:1-6**).

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. 2 Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. 4 Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. 5 You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

How does the context inform what James says in verses 7-11?

4. The definition of *makrothumos* (see above) conveys a close relationship between impatience and anger. How would you define that relationship?

5. How does the illustration of the farmer help us to understand what God is doing when we face adversity?

6. How does the promise of Jesus' return help us to wait (v. 8)?

7. Taking an honest assessment of yourself, what's your "grumbling-meter" register when you are in God's waiting room?

8. Verses 10-11 refer to the patience modelled by the prophets and Job. Which of the prophet's life-story has been most helpful to you in cultivating patience?

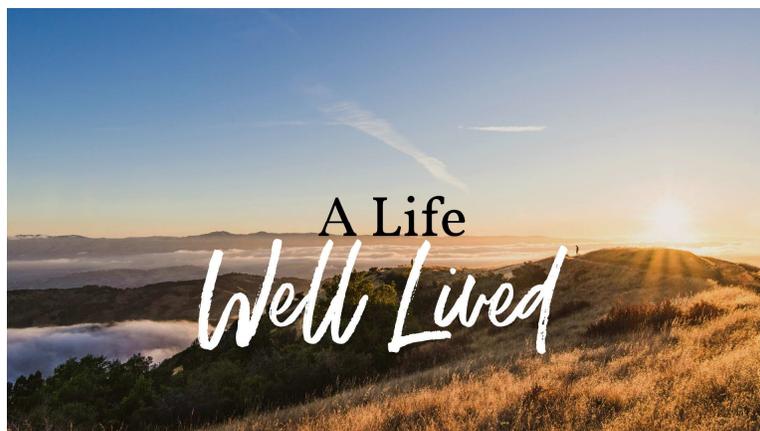
How does the story of Job give you additional insight?

9. How does the patience of God towards you encourage you to walk in the Spirit so that His fruit of patience becomes evident in your life?

Prayer for Patience

God Almighty, Have mercy on me, a sinner. I know that my actions of impatience reveal sin and disbelief in my soul that I have not dealt with. Help me to see and understand who You are. You are a God who always exhibits patience and grace. I know that You are not a God that is slow to fulfill your promises, but are patient towards me, not wishing that I perish, but that all people would reach repentance. Help me to understand the great depths of love and mercy that You have poured out on me because of your Son.

Forgive me for forgetting so quickly, the patience that you provide as I grow and mature as a disciple of Christ. Let me never take it for granted, but let me treasure You all the days of my life. I know that Your patience and kindness is meant to lead me to repentance and deeper trust.



Sermon Notes: *Wait for It*

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THE
BIBLE RECAP
BY D-GROUP

Sunday, May 9 thru Saturday, May 15, 2021

2 Samuel 8-9, 1 Chronicles 18; Psalm 50,53, 60,
75; 2 Samuel 10, 1 Chron. 19, Ps. 20;

Ps. 65-67, 69-70; 2 Samuel 11-12, 1 Chron. 20;

Ps. 32, 51 86 122; 2 Samuel 13-15