



**Life Group Discussion Guide
Faith in Practice**

How Does Faith Work When You Are Suffering? - James 5:7-12

Brian Stark - June 25, 2023

Main thought:

Suffering causes God to be glorified and you to be purified.

Notes

Patience with people - James 5:7-10

The word for patience – long-suffering

The illustrations:

- 1) The Farmer
- 2) The Prophets

Patience in circumstances - James 5:11-12

The word for patience – perseverance (remain under)

The illustrations:

- 1) Job

Ice-Breaker

- How do you like to spend July 4th? What will you be doing this year?

Verse of the week

- What is a verse or truth from God's Word that has stood out to you this week from your personal Bible reading?

Digging In

Read James 5:7-12, and discuss the following questions.

- Why does James use the Lord's coming as motivation for patience?
- How is a farmer a good example of patience?
- Why do we seem to take our suffering out on the people around us?
- When you think of the example of the prophets in suffering, who comes to mind? Why?
- Is it easier for you to be patient with people or with circumstances? Why?
- Why is Job a good example of perseverance?
- What are ways that you strengthen your heart in suffering?



Application

1. Receive Jesus' suffering on your behalf – Have you made the choice to receive Jesus as your Savior and your hope in the midst of suffering? You can do that today.
2. Strengthen your heart – How can you lean into God in the midst of your difficulties and strengthen your heart through prayer, Bible reading, community, or other ways?
3. In your suffering, glorify God – How can you glorify God in the midst of your suffering and difficulties this week?

Praying as a group

- How can we be praying for each other this week?