PATIENCE DURING TROUBLING TIMES

James 5.7-13

THE PATIENCE OF A FARMER

James points to a farmer when exhorting the church to have patience. Farmers need perspective. They know what to expect, they have been down this road before, they have seen others farm, and they don't have a false expectation. All of this gives them patience. But he also tells us to "establish your hearts."

Establish: "gain a footing," having "firm support."

A firm understanding and perspective gives the farmer patience. A firm understanding and perspective gives the believer patience.

WHAT GIVES US UNDERSTANDING AND PERSPECTIVE?

Specifically, James says "establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand." It is this truth that establishes us.

- He has not left us as orphans (John 14.18)
- He is near the broken hearted (Psalm 34.18)
- He will never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13.5)
- He will uphold us with His righteous right hand (Isaiah 41.10)
- Our Father is stronger than all, nothing can take us from Him (John 10.29)
- This life of suffering is a light and momentary affliction (2 Corinthians 4.17)

Psalm 119.9, 50 // Romans 8:32-39

THE EXAMPLE OF OTHERS

James 5.10-13

The prophets were known to have been persecuted not just by non-believers, but also by the Jews who did not want to hear their message of repentance. Notice how James then shifts from "patience" to "endurance" here.

Job's is no groveling, passive, unquestioning submission; Job struggled and questioned, and sometimes even defied, but the flame of faith was never extinguished in his heart.

- William Barclay

James 5.13, 14



This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

Psalm 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to fill out a Connection Card so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the Connection Booth outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll join us next Sunday and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

In our children's ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, we have classes for **newborns-5th grade**, along with a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walk-through of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email Katie McGinty at Katie@lifemission.tv

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th-8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshiping with the adults** and then head to their class with their teacher and classmates for the rest of the service. Visit our website to read more about our Junior High Ministry and a walk-through of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders** stay in the service with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school. Our **wid-week High School Ministry meets on Thursday Nights @7PM**, here at Classical Academy in the Study Hall. For more info or questions about our student ministries, email **Casey Barnes at Casey@lifemission.tv.**

NOTES:

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before your group starts, is there anyone who can share the Memory Verse?

Read James 5:7-13. What stuck out to you in these verses or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday?

We learned on Sunday that "suffering is inevitable" and it's not a question of if, but when. How do you deal with suffering when it occurs? Where or who do you turn to?

What are some ways in your own life that you have grown in patience? What was the process like?

Read Psalm 119:50, John 14:18, Psalm 34:18, Hebrews 13:5, Isaiah 41:10, John 10:29, and 2 Corinthians 4:17. How can promises like these bring comfort in times of affliction?

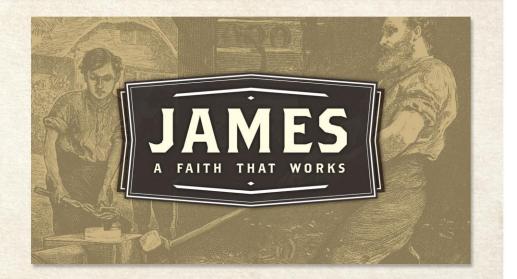
Read **Exodus 16:1-2**. Many times the Israelites grumbled against one another when they became impatient. Although the Lord was sustaining them and fulfilling his promises to them, they were quick to complain. Now look at **Exodus 16:8**. Who were they really grumbling against? Why is our complaining actually discontentment towards the Lord?

How can we look to the prophets as examples of suffering well? Look for examples in the Old Testament to share with your group.

Share with your group anyways you are currently suffering or going through affliction. Pray and encourage one another with God's precious promises revealed to you in this week's sermon.



MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY, WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.



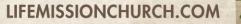
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James 5:7-13 // September 10, 2017

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School 207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

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