

Dear brothers and sisters, be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen. You, too, must be patient. Take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near. Don't grumble about each other, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. For look—the Judge is standing at the door! For examples of patience in suffering, dear brothers and sisters, look at the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. We give great honor to those who endure under suffering. For instance, you know about Job, a man of great endurance. You can see how the Lord was kind to him at the end, for the Lord is full of tenderness and mercy. James 5:7-11 (NLT)

Patiently Wait

What will happen to you as you patiently wait my return? If I patiently wait for your return my heart and mind and life will be focused on you. My attention will not be captured by the thoughts and opinions and values of this world. My life will not be one long pursuit of all the comforts and pleasures that this world has to offer. I will live with the knowledge that this world is not my true home. I am just passing through this brief life. Whether you come quickly and return to this earth, or I leave this life very soon, it does not amount to much difference to me personally, at least in one regard, I will be seeing you soon. **That is true.**

You will be seeing me soon, there is no doubt about that. How does that knowledge impact your life today? Knowing that I will see you soon reorders my priorities. I want my life to count. I don't want to waste time. I don't want to misspend my life. I want to accomplish your purposes and fulfill your plans. I want to know and do your will. I want to go where you guide me. I want to do what you ask of me. I want to live a bold life as a bright witness for you in the darkness of this world. I want to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. I want others to come to know and love and follow and serve you because they have seen your life being lived out in and through me. **You have very good desires within you. Do you believe that I will fulfill these desires of your heart?** Yes, I do. You put these desires in my heart. You will certainly fulfill them. **Yes, I will, you can count on me.**

As you go through different seasons in life how are you able to endure them? As you encounter twists and turns and ups and downs and trials of every kind, how do you find strength to overcome them? Not by myself, not with my own strength, not under my own power, that is for sure. As my heart, and mind, and life are focused on you and your return I am encouraged. You give me hope. You give me strength. You keep me moving forward with you. **Yes, I have. Yes, I am. Yes, I will.**

Keep your heart and mind and life focused on me. I will supply all you need. Thank you, Lord.

Lord, patiently waiting is not one of my stronger gifts. That is an understatement, I know. Help me to keep my heart and mind and life focused on your return. Help me to patiently endure even the difficult seasons of life, as I continue to love, follow, and serve you. Amen

Promises

Be Patient

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 for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

NIV

James 5:7-11

Promises

Be Patient

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. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 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.

ESV

James 5:7-11

Promises

Be Patient As You Wait

Dear brothers and sisters, be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen. You, too, must be patient. Take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near. Don't grumble about each other, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. For look—the Judge is standing at the door! For examples of patience in suffering, dear brothers and sisters, look at the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. We give great honor to those who endure under suffering. For instance, you know about Job, a man of great endurance. You can see how the Lord was kind to him at the end, for the Lord is full of tenderness and mercy.

NLT

James 5:7-11

Promises

Be Patient

Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door! My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience. Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end *intended* by the Lord—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.

NKJV

James 5:7-11

Promises

Be Patient

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

NRSV

James 5:7-11

Promises

Wait Patiently

Meanwhile, friends, wait patiently for the Master's Arrival. You see farmers do this all the time, waiting for their valuable crops to mature, patiently letting the rain do its slow but sure work. Be patient like that. Stay steady and strong. The Master could arrive at any time. Friends, don't complain about each other. A far greater complaint could be lodged against you, you know. The Judge is standing just around the corner. Take the old prophets as your mentors. They put up with anything, went through everything, and never once quit, all the time honoring God. What a gift life is to those who stay the course! You've heard, of course, of Job's staying power, and you know how God brought it all together for him at the end. That's because God cares, cares right down to the last detail.

MSG

James 5:7-11

Promises

Be Patient Till

So be patient, brethren, [as you wait] till the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits expectantly for the precious harvest from the land. [See how] he keeps up his patient [vigil] over it until it receives the early and late rains. So you also must be patient. Establish your hearts [strengthen and confirm them in the final certainty], for the coming of the Lord is very near. Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you [yourselves] may not be judged. Look! The Judge is [already] standing at the very door. [As] an example of suffering and ill-treatment together with patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord [as His messengers]. You know how we call those blessed (happy) who were steadfast [who endured]. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the Lord's [purpose and how He richly blessed him in the] end, inasmuch as the Lord is full of pity and compassion and tenderness and mercy.

AMP

James 5:7-11

Promises

Be Patient Until

Now as for you, dear brothers who are waiting for the Lord's return, be patient, like a farmer who waits until the autumn for his precious harvest to ripen. Yes, be patient. And take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near. Don't grumble about each other, brothers. Are you yourselves above criticism? For see! The great Judge is coming. He is almost here. [Let him do whatever criticizing must be done.] For examples of patience in suffering, look at the Lord's prophets. We know how happy they are now because they stayed true to him then, even though they suffered greatly for it. Job is an example of a man who continued to trust the Lord in sorrow; from his experiences we can see how the Lord's plan finally ended in good, for he is full of tenderness and mercy.

TLB

James 5:7-11

Promises

Be Patient, Until

Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door. As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.

NASB

James 5:7-11

Promises

Be Patient Until

Brothers and sisters, be patient until the Lord comes again. A farmer patiently waits for his valuable crop to grow from the earth and for it to receive the autumn and spring rains. You, too, must be patient. Do not give up hope, because the Lord is coming soon. Brothers and sisters, do not complain against each other or you will be judged guilty. And the Judge is ready to come! Brothers and sisters, follow the example of the prophets who spoke for the Lord. They suffered many hard things, but they were patient. We say they are happy because they did not give up. You have heard about Job's patience, and you know the Lord's purpose for him in the end. You know the Lord is full of mercy and is kind.

NCV

James 5:7-11

Be Patient As You Wait

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Promises – James 5:7-11

In Context: *Read James 5*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Dear brothers and sisters, be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen. You, too, must be patient. Take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near. Don't grumble about each other, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. For look—the Judge is standing at the door! For examples of patience in suffering, dear brothers and sisters, look at the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. We give great honor to those who endure under suffering. For instance, you know about Job, a man of great endurance. You can see how the Lord was kind to him at the end, for the Lord is full of tenderness and mercy. James 5:7-11 (NLT)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Dear brothers and sisters, | be patient | as you wait for | the Lord's return. | Consider the farmers | who patiently wait | for the rains in the fall and in the spring. | They eagerly look for | the valuable harvest to ripen. | You, too, | must be patient. | Take courage, | for the coming of the Lord | is near. | Don't grumble about each other, | brothers and sisters, | or you will be judged. | For look—the Judge | is standing at the door! | For examples of | patience in suffering, | dear brothers and sisters, | look at the prophets | who spoke | in the name of the Lord. | We give great honor | to those | who endure under suffering. | For instance, | you know about Job, | a man of great endurance. | You can see how | the Lord was kind | to him at the end, | for the Lord | is full of tenderness | and mercy. James 5:7-11 (NLT)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, patiently waiting is not one of my stronger gifts. That is an understatement, I know. Help me to keep my heart and mind and life focused on your return. Help me to patiently endure even the difficult seasons of life, as I continue to love, follow and serve you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Why are you certain to encounter seasons of life that will test your patience?

Why will never be able to skip going through different seasons in life?

How would you describe the season of life you are in now?

How has the Lord helped you to patiently endure a difficult season in your life?

How is expectantly awaiting the Lord's return giving you patience to endure difficult seasons in life?

How are you continuing to follow and serve the Lord in this season of your life?

When have the activities in one season prepared you to bear fruit in another season?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Expectantly and patiently wait the Lord's return as He helps you to endure difficult seasons in life.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to endure difficult seasons as you expectantly await His return.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord is helping you to endure difficult seasons in life.

Close With Prayer:

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you wait patiently for the Lord's return.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will wait patiently for your return.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I wait patiently for your return?
