

The Book of James – Are We There Yet? Pastor Jude Fouquier 05.25.2025

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

Are We There Yet?

[James 1:2-4] ESV

"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

[James 5:7-20] ESV

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. But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone

brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins."

- 1. Be patient- keep your eyes up
- 2. Keep praying- Bring heaven down
- 3. Take responsibility- Live beyond yourself

Key Points:

- 1. Be patient- Keep your eyes up
- 2. Keep praying- Bring heaven down
- 3. Take responsibility- Live beyond yourself

Applications for the Week:

How has this study in James changed your relationship with Jesus? This week think about the process and change that James is teaching and wanting us to focus on for our lives?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. How is encouragement an important aspect of practicing active patience?
- **2.** What does it mean and look like, according to James to take responsibility and live beyond ourselves? What mission are we being called to take ownership of?
- **3.** What example does James use to describe patience, and what does this example teach us about waiting on God?
- **4.** What does James say about how we should respond when someone wanders from the truth?
- **5.** Why do you think James compares patience to the work of a farmer? What does this say about the kind of patience God wants from us?
- **6.** The sermon says, Patience is not doing nothing. What is one area where you've been waiting passively that you could turn into active trust this week?
- **7.** When you face trials or delays, do you tend to compare your journey to others? How can you shift your focus from comparison to keeping your eyes on Jesus?
- **8.** Prayer is described as a lifeline and not just for the spiritually elite. What is one specific situation where you need to invite God's presence through prayer this week?