

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Fruit of the Holy Spirit Series

These questions are for the **July 20, 2025** message, "**Patience**," from the series entitled, ***Fruit of the Holy Spirit***. Please read the sermon passage (James 5:7-12) together to set the context for our study.

Passage Outline

Patience is...

- **Waiting.** (7) - We wait and long for the coming of Jesus to make everything right.
- **Establishing your heart.** (8)
 - Psalm 1 We are like trees planted by streams of water who bear fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither.
 - The idea of establishing indicates that we are in this for the long haul.
- **Forbearance.** (9) - we bear with the annoyances and sins others commit against us, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave us.
- **Long-suffering**
 - "The ability to endure for a long time whatever opposition and suffering may come our way, and to show perseverance without wanting retaliation or revenge."
-Christopher J H Wright
 - 1 Peter 2:20-24

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Discuss ways we can truly desire and anticipate the coming of Jesus. Maybe share examples of ways that have worked for you.
2. In what ways does the coming of the Lord give you hope on a personal level? What does this have to do with patience?
3. What does "establishing your heart" have to do with patience?
4. Discuss how we "establish our hearts" (James 5:8) and how God "establishes our hearts" (1 Thessalonians 3:13).
5. Why must we "forbear" with one another? How do we do that? Give real examples.
6. As we think about suffering and "long-suffering" we might feel like we don't suffer like the prophets or like Jesus. We may feel like we don't suffer for the sake of Christ, because we feel like we might not have the opportunity. So how is this idea of suffering related to your context? What can you take away personally from the example of suffering of the prophets, Job, and Jesus?