



Sermon Discussion Guide

July 13, 2025 | James 5:7-12 | Jim Kramer

SUMMARY

Big Idea: Be Patient, Live with Hope, Christ is Coming, He is Good

In our passage, James calls the church to live our lives, anchored in the sure hope of Christ's return. In the face of suffering, our temptations are to lash out, give up, or compromise. James gives a better path - patience, integrity and endurance. The farmer waits with expectation. The prophets speak with courage. Job endures with hope. The church walks in faith, knowing that the judge is near, and He is not only righteous, but merciful.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Intro

1. What has tested your patience this last week? Month? Year(s)?

Read James 5:7-12

2. What seems to be James' overarching point? How do you know?
3. How would you define "Patience"?
 - a. Biblically - how is patience not merely a passive or indifferent endurance; but rather an active trust in a near and merciful Lord?
4. In verses 7-8, what reason does James give for why we must be patient?
 - a. How does remembering that "the Lord is at hand" fuel your patience in the midst of trials and difficulties?
5. What aspects of your life are hard right now?
 - a. (v9) When things are hard, how do you see it affect the way you relate to others?
 - b. In what ways are you tempted to grumble or blame?
 - c. What does this response reveal about your belief in God? (His attributes, character?)
6. In verses 10-11, why does James reference the prophets and Job?
 - a. What, specifically, does James desire for us to glean and learn from them?
 - b. How does intentionally reflecting on what God has done in the past, fuel your patience now?
7. In verse 12, James calls us to have integrity of speech by letting our words match our lives (let your "yes" be yes, and your "no" be no.)
 - a. In what ways do life's hardships tempt us to be impatient with our speech?
 - b. What would letting your "yes" be yes look like for you this week?
8. When was the last time you intentionally thought, prayed about, and reflected on the return of Christ?
 - a. What is one thing in your life that should look different this week in light of Christ's coming?
 - i. Example: "Because I know that Christ is coming soon, I must _____"