

Life Group Study James 5:7-12

Read James 5:7-12; Rom. 12:2 (NLT); Phil. 4:8; 2 Cor. 4:17; 5:9-10; Rom 8:18; 2 Tim. 4:7-8; 1 Cor. 3:12-15; Rom. 5:3.

1. Are you naturally patient? How would you fare on a scale of 1—10 between patience and impatience?
2. Who was James writing to? Why should James 5:7-12 be especially relevant for them?
3. In which way is our thinking related to our actions? (see Rom. 12:2NLT; Phil. 4:8)
4. James mentions the Second Coming of Christ on three occasions (in v7-9).
 - What emotion does the Return of Christ raise in you?
 - Why does James link the Second Coming with patience in suffering?
 - Why has the teaching of the Second Coming of Christ fallen into disrepute with some?
 - Why is it such an important doctrine?
5. What comfort do you gain from 2 Cor. 4:17; Rom. 12:2 and 2 Tim. 4:7-8?
6. In which way does the Second Coming challenge the behaviour of James' readers, and us? (see v9)
7. What inspiring examples of perseverance does James use to encourage suffering Christians? Why are these such good examples?
8. Why is it so important to learn from, and be inspired by, others? Who has inspired you (personally or through biography) to persevere?
9. Warren Wiersbe: "Patience means to stay put and stand fast when you'd like to run away...there can be no victories, without battles; there can be no peaks without valleys. If you want blessing you must be prepared to carry the burden and fight the battle." Thoughts?