

## **I'M SO IMPATIENT** **Practical Faith - Part 9**

**KEY OBSERVATION:** Sometimes the greatest step of faith we can take is to do nothing, and simply **WAIT** on God.

*"7 Be patient, my friends, until the Lord comes back. Remember how patient farmers are as they wait for their valuable crops to mature and ripen. They also wait patiently for the spring and fall rains to do their work. 8 You too must be patient! Don't give up because the Lord could arrive at any time! 9 And don't complain – especially against each other – or God will judge you! Remember that the real Judge is standing at the door! 10 Another example of patience in the face of suffering is God's prophets who spoke God's truth in hard times. Today, we honor them for their patient endurance when they suffered unjustly. 11 Then remember the example of Job. Job continued to patiently trust God while enduring great pain. But we know how God fulfilled his purpose for Job and that his plan for Job ended in good because the Lord always treats us with tender compassion and merciful kindness."*  
James 5:7-11

### **QUESTION #1: When is patiently waiting an act of faith?**

**First:** When the circumstances are out of our **CONTROL**.

*"7 Be patient, my friends, until the Lord comes back. Remember how patient farmers are as they wait for their valuable crops to mature and ripen. They also wait patiently for the spring and fall rains to do their work. 8 You too must be patient! Don't give up because the Lord could arrive at any time!"* James 5:7-8

**Second:** When the **TRUTH** is not valued.

*"10 Another example of patience in the face of suffering is God's prophets who spoke God's truth in hard times. 11 Today, we honor them for their patient endurance when they suffered unjustly."* James 5:10-11a

*"Don't grumble about each other, my brothers and sisters, or God will judge you. Remember, the great Judge is coming. He is standing at the door!"* James 5:9

**Third:** When **PAIN** is unbearable and unexplainable.

*"Then remember the example of Job. Job continued to patiently trust God while enduring great pain. But we know how God fulfilled his purpose for Job and that his plan for Job ended in good because the Lord always treats us with tender compassion and merciful kindness."* James 5:11

*After Job had prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before."*  
Job 42:10

*"Though, he slay me, yet will I trust him?"* Job 13:15

### **QUESTION #2: What should I remember while I'm waiting on God?**

**First:** Remember God is in **CONTROL**!

*"7 Be patient, my friends, until the Lord comes back. 8 Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. 9 Don't complain...the Judge is ready to come!"* James 5:7-9

**Second:** Remember God **REWARDS** patience

*"We consider blessed those who have persevered."* James 5:11

*"Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up."* Galatians 6:9

*"11 Blessed are you when men shall revile you or insult you and persecute you and say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in Heaven."* Matthew 5:11-12

**Third:** Remember this is not the **END** of the story!

*"We know how God fulfilled his purpose for Job and that his plan for Job ended in good because the Lord always treats us with tender compassion and merciful kindness."* James 5:11b

*"...for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose." Philippians 2:13*

*"...in all things, God is working..." Romans 8:28*

*"I know what I am planning for you" says the Lord. "I have good plans for you, not plans to hurt you. I'll give you hope and a good future!" Jeremiah 29:11*

### **QUESTION #3: How do I trust God during a delay?**

#### **#1: Wait EXPECTANTLY!**

*"...I wait expectantly, trusting God to help, for He has promised." Psalm 130:5*

*"No one who waits for my help will be disappointed." Isaiah 49:23*

#### **#2: Wait without COMPLAINING!**

*"It is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord." Lamentations 3:26*

*"...Don't swear..." James 5 12b*

#### **#3: Wait CONFIDENTLY!**

*"I will wait confidently for God." Micah 7:7*

*"If a man dies, can he come back to life? I will wait for better times; I will wait till this time of trouble is ended." Job 14:14*

*"Those who wait on the Lord will find new strength. They will fly high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint!" Isaiah 40:31*

*"The Lord isn't being slow in keeping his promise to return. Instead, he's waiting on you, being patient with you, because he doesn't want anyone to be lost and perish. Instead, he is giving you time to change your heart and turn to him!" 2 Peter 3:9*