

Bible Study 15 – Patience in suffering – James 5:7-12

You've dialled a 1300 number to talk to customer service. You connect to an automated menu and spend minutes going through all the menu options, only to realize none of the options apply to your situation. So you wait until you're finally connected to a real human being, who immediately asks to put you on hold. You spend the next few minutes listening to muzak. Suddenly, you hear a long beep on the other end of the line, and the call goes dead. How are you feeling at this point? I suspect most of us would feel frustrated, irritated, annoyed, or impatient. Patience does not come to easily to some of us.

The context	This letter was written to persecuted Jewish Christians. The theme is that Christian faith expresses itself in a life of godliness. It addresses: persevering through trials & temptations, obeying God's Word, discriminating against others, putting faith into action, controlling our language, the relationship between wisdom & behaviour, being in conflict with God & others, steps of repentance, boasting about tomorrow, the sins of the rich and patience in suffering.
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PART 1 Read & summarise each section – James 5:7-12

A farmer's patience (v.7-9)	
A prophet's patience (v.10)	
Job's endurance (v.11)	
Tell the truth (v.12)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. **What I learnt about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit.**

2. **What I learnt about people like us.**

3. **Summarise a key verse in your own words.**

4. **In your opinion, what are the most important biblical principles being taught?**

5. **Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?**

6. **How can the Lord's coming (the rapture) help us be patient with people (v.7, 8, 9)?**

7. **Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?**

Let's be patient in tough times because our sufferings cease when Jesus returns.



Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

I will
I will
I will

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a *COMMANDMENT* or *MODEL* for me to follow?

Share

Who will I tell about this Bible passage?

Prayer

Date:

One thing you are thankful for.

One thing that's bothering you.

Is there anything this group can do to help you?

Person	Prayer points

Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

Person	How will I help them?

