

## Friday

Since it's Good Friday, read Luke 22:47–23:49. It's a long passage, but worth it for the impact it'll have on you today! What impresses you about Jesus in this passage?

Someone has said that Luke 23:39–43 is a summary of humanity's response to Christ. How is this true?

*Thank God today for what He has done for you! Come join us for the Good Friday communion service with a beautiful choir mini-concert tonight at 7:30 pm.*

## Saturday

Read Luke 24 in preparation for Easter. How is verse 36 a good summary of the gospel?

Why did even Christ's disciples have trouble believing?

Are these similar to any reasons we have difficulty believing today?

Jesus gives as evidence prophecies in the Old Testament. Why is this important?

*Thank God for what He did on that first Resurrection Sunday many years ago — and determine to be a "witness" of this truth to others, just as Christ commanded the disciples. Please pray for the services this weekend.*



## Waiting Well

March 27 & 28, 2010 • René Schläepfer  
James 5:7–20

*Learning to wait is a hard lesson in life. James shows us when, why, and how to be patient...*

### When to be patient

#### When circumstances are \_\_\_\_\_

See how the **farmer** waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. *James 5:7b*

#### When people are \_\_\_\_\_

Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the **prophets** who spoke in the name of the Lord. *James 5:10*

#### When problems are \_\_\_\_\_

You have heard of **Job's** perseverance... *James 5:11b*

### Why be patient?

#### Because \_\_\_\_\_

You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming **is near**. *James 5:8*

The **Judge** is standing at the door! *James 5:9*

#### Because \_\_\_\_\_

As you know, we consider **blessed** those who have persevered... *James 5:11a*

#### Because \_\_\_\_\_

You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what **the Lord finally brought about**. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. *James 5:11b*

## How to be patient:

### 1. Wait \_\_\_\_\_

See how the **farmer** waits... *James 5:7b*

### 2. Wait \_\_\_\_\_

Don't **grumble** against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. *James 5:9a*

Above all, my brothers, don't **swear**... *James 5:12a*

### 3. Wait \_\_\_\_\_

Is any one of you in **trouble**? He should **pray**. Is anyone **happy**? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to **pray** over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. *James 5:13,14*

The **prayer** of a righteous man is powerful and effective. *James 5:16b*

## Question to apply:

Where do I \_\_\_\_\_ ?



## Daily Meditations

### Monday

Read James 5:7–11. Why is it difficult to be patient?

James uses farming as a key example of patience. Why?

Of the three times to be patient mentioned under point one in the message, which is most difficult for you? Why?

continued

*Ask God for supernatural patience — specifically, name the area about which you seem to get impatient about the most!*

### Tuesday

Read James 5:12. Why do you think, in the middle of a passage on patience, James talks about swearing?!

Read Matthew 5:33–37 for Jesus' perspective on the same issue. Do you have a problem with talking too much when you need to be waiting quietly and confidently?

*Ask God for help in this area! Thank Him for His grace toward you. And please pray for the important Easter services this weekend: That many would take steps toward a deeper relationship with Jesus.*

### Wednesday

Read James 5:13–20. What has really tried your patience or your faith? How has prayer helped?

James talks about prayer not just in private, but in groups (verse 16) and with the leaders of the church (verse 14). Why is it a good idea to tell others and the church leaders what you need prayer about?

Have you ever been healed in some way after being prayed for? What happened?

Do you know of others who have?

Why doesn't this happen in every instance?

*Thank God for the certainty of His appearing! Relax in the fact that He is in control — and patient! And again, please pray for this weekend's message and music in the Easter services to be celebratory and powerful. Thanks!*

### Thursday

Read over as much as you can of the book of James today. What are the major themes you have noticed as we've done this study of James over the past eight weeks?

James can polarize people. How do you feel after studying this book?

James would not be impressed that we have studied his letter; the first thing he would say to us today would undoubtedly be: "Are you applying it?" How can you be a doer of the truth you have heard in James?

*Ask God to help you truly obey what you've learned from this wonderful little book! Please bathe the Easter services in prayer.*



Memory Verse

"Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near."

*James 5:7–8 (NIV)*