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## Sermon Discussion Guide

### Patience in the face of suffering - Geoff Mumley

06/19/22

#### Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!



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#### Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? This could also be an icebreaker question related to the topic for discussion.
- Share a time when you were waiting or hoping for something.
- Spend a few minutes recognizing Juneteenth.
  - This could be; learning some history, watching a short video, have someone share what Juneteenth means to them, or something else.

#### Book - Scripture

- Read the scripture, and discuss a few questions to understand **what the text is saying**.
- **Read James 5:7-12**
- Remember from last week and look at the surrounding verses. What is the context of the people God is speaking to?
- What are James' instructions in the midst of their suffering?
- What does James say they are supposed to wait for?

#### Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on the implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
- What is the good news that James is preaching in this passage?
- What metaphor does James use in this passage? What could it have meant to his original audience?
- Why do you think James included verses 9 and 12 in the middle of his encouragements to persevere?



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#### Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
- How is this passage good news for believers today?
- Are there places in your life where you need the hope of Jesus' return and justice?
- What would it practically look like for you to be patient in perseverance as you wait of Jesus?

#### Time of Prayer