



# inside out

A SERMON SERIES IN THE BOOK OF JAMES

## MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 10 – PATIENT IN SUFFERING

*<sup>1</sup>Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you. <sup>2</sup>Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. <sup>4</sup>Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. <sup>5</sup>You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup>You have condemned and murdered the innocent one, who was not opposing you.*

*<sup>7</sup> Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. <sup>8</sup>You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. <sup>9</sup>Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!*

*<sup>10</sup>Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. 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 5:1-11 (NIV)

### **OBSERVATIONS ABOUT BEING PATIENT IN SUFFERING**

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- Your \_\_\_\_\_ don't tell the \_\_\_\_\_
- The \_\_\_\_\_ should motivate patience and perseverance
- \_\_\_\_\_ leads to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of patient endurance far outweigh any \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ we may experience in this life
- God can and will \_\_\_\_\_ to produce his character in us

## **BIG IDEA**

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*The basis for patience in suffering is the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ character of our Heavenly Father*

## **ADDITIONAL NOTES**

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## **DIGGING DEEPER**

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1. Why is James so harsh about how the wealthy treat others in verses 1-6? Why is realizing that these verses are referring to unbelievers significant for understanding these verses to?
2. Was James condemning all wealthy people? Why or why not?
3. How should these verses influence followers of Jesus to their own wealth and possessions?
4. Why is it important to recognize that your current circumstances—especially when suffering is involved—are not the whole story?
5. How might this bring encouragement?
6. What is the relationship between the return of Jesus and patience?
7. What does impatience produce among followers of Jesus?
8. How can benefits help outweigh difficulties we may go through? What are some of the benefits that God provides when we patiently endure suffering?
9. Why does God allow suffering in our lives? How does he leverage suffering in our lives?
10. How does God's character give us confidence to be patient and to endure suffering?