



MOVEMENT

Week 6

BREAKING THE ICE

In what ways did God tell you that you can live more fully for Him last week?

What did you learn from your James reading this week?

Who is the most patient person you know?

MAIN CONTENT

This week David Nasser finished our Movement series by teaching the last chapter of James. In chapter 5 James talks about patience.

1. When you hear the word patience, what does that make you think about?

Patience is tested by things that agitate us. Whether it's long lines or traffic we all lose patience at some point. But if we allow God to help us with our patience, the things that agitate us can help us be more dependent on Him.

2. What is something that agitates you? How has that helped or hindered your patience?

Our world has become so technologically advanced that we have little patience when we have to wait. We get agitated quickly when things don't go our way.

Read James 5:7-11

The world's definition of patience is the self-relying capacity to remain tranquil during delay, suffering or adversity. The Biblical definition of patience is the God-given capacity to remain tranquil during delay, suffering or adversity.

3. How can you see the difference between the world's definition of patience and the Biblical definition of patience in your life? How does each of these types of patience work out for you?

David said, "If God lives in us we get to live Godly." Patience is a fruit of the spirit. We get to live out all the fruits of the spirit not just one. As believers we are commanded to live out patience.

David gave us four essential truths about patience in the message Sunday. The first one is Patience is imperative and not optional. It's an attribute of the Holy Spirit living in us. If we are believers, we don't get to choose which fruit of the spirit we have. As a follower of Jesus, we are a people of patience.

The second truth is patience is cultivated and not fabricated. God is looking for the pursuit of patience in our lives. It takes time to build patience. As we grow and mature in our faith our patience grows.

4. How do you need to work on patience in your life? What are some steps you can take to build your patience?

The third truth is patience is personal but not private. Patience starts in us but it works its way through us and affects those around us. When we are followers of Jesus, God watches how we respond to others, especially other followers. We must love God and His people.

Patience looks like honoring other people. Honor is seeing someone in their full potential (depravity and delight), seeing others the way God sees them.

5. Who in your life has honored you with their patience? How did that make you feel?

6. How can you honor others and see them the way God sees them?

We get to choose to honor others even if they have dishonored us. Patience is personal because the Godlier we become the nicer we should be to others. Spiritual maturity is not how many Bible verses we know but how we treat others.

The last truth is patience is faithfulness. Biblical patience lasts until our last day or until God returns. God has given us the power to look beyond our current circumstances and look to Him for patience with things going on in our lives.

David shared a story about his brother Benji and the patience he had in his life. He suffered from cancer and throughout the cancer diagnosis he remained faithful and held on to the promises of God in his life. He had patience and joy despite his circumstances.

7. How is God teaching you patience in your life right now? What can you learn about being patient in your circumstances?

CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank you for showing us how the fruits of your Spirit are essential in our lives. How patience makes us kinder and more like you. Will you please reveal to us where our lives have been lacking in patience? Show us how to honor others as you honor us. Help us live out patience every day. Amen.

ACTION STEP

+ Finish this last week of the Movement series by listening to the podcast and using the reading plan at www.crosspoint.tv/movement.

+ Take note of how you exercise patience this week. Do you tend to lose patience with certain people? When are you losing patience? How do you react when your patience wears thin?

+ Ask God to help you with all the fruits of the spirit: love, joy, peace, gentleness, kindness, self-control, patience, goodness and faithfulness.