

Family Studies on Patience - Teach Me, Lord, To Wait

- Recommended Hymn: Quiet My Soul
- **Psalm 37:7 - “Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!”**
 - What does it mean to be still before the Lord? How does being still before God impact our response to others in the world?
 - How is patience related to peace? How does our relationship with God help us to have both?
 - What are some things that our family is waiting on God to accomplish? How can we help each other wait patiently as a family?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** God to accomplish His will for us and quiet us with His unlimited love and perfect peace.
- Recommended Hymn: Teach Me, Lord, To Wait
- **Isaiah 40:31 - “But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.”**
 - What does the prophet mean by saying that we will have wings like eagles if we wait for the Lord?
 - Where else does the Bible talk about running as a metaphor for faith? How are those passages related to this one?
 - How does being patient before God strengthen our faith? How can it strengthen our bond to Him and each other as a family?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** renewed strength and endurance to run and not faint before the Lord, and greater patience that leads to both.
- Recommended Hymn: How Can I Keep From Singing?
- **Luke 8:15 - “As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.”**
 - Read this paragraph (Luke 8:4-15) together. What is the point that Jesus is making in this parable?
 - What does “bearing fruit” mean in this context? Why is patience necessary to bear fruit in this way? How can we have patience in doing so?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** opportunities to grow and to bear fruit, and patience with those who we are trying to help grow themselves.

- Recommended Hymn: Where He Leads, I'll Follow
- **Acts 1:4-5 - “And while staying with them He ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said, ‘you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’”**
 - Who is Jesus talking to when He says this? How does this audience affect the meaning of what He says?
 - Why is it significant that the first thing Jesus tells this group to do to accomplish their mission is to wait for the Holy Spirit?
 - What promises from God are we waiting for Him to fulfill? How can we still accomplish His mission for us while we wait for these things?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** God to reveal His promises to us and to realize them according to His timing and love for us.
- Recommended Hymn: Cornerstone
- **Romans 12:12 - “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.”**
 - How is our patience as Christians related to our hope? How is our patience as Christians related to the idea of being in prayer constantly?
 - What tribulations did the first century church go through that they would need to be patient while enduring? What tribulations do we go through as a family and as a congregation that we need to be patient while enduring?
 - What can we do to accomplish all three of these things, and to help our church family accomplish all three of these things?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** the joy of the Lord to overflow in our lives and make us more patient during times of trouble.
- Recommended Hymn: Just A Few More Days
- **James 5:7-8 - “Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.”**
 - Why is the word “brothers” important in this verse? Who does this mean James is talking to here? How does the meaning of this verse change depending on whether the reader belongs to this group or not?
 - Are we excited for Jesus to come again? How can we become more excited for His return? How can we help others become excited?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** the Lord to return soon, and for the Spirit to keep us in peaceful patience until He comes again.