

Small Group Bible Study

James Week 4

Sermon Overview

James closes his letter with urgency, reminding us that following Jesus requires endurance, patience, and a long view of eternity. In a world where waiting can lead to apathy, he calls believers to stay grounded, stand firm, and live with expectation. When we live like Jesus is returning, it changes what matters most.

Opening Prayer

God, open our hearts to Your Word today. Help us not just hear it, but live it with urgency and faith. Amen.

Icebreaker Question

- What is something you find really hard to wait for, and why?
- Have you ever had to trust a process where you couldn't see results right away?

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Read James 5:7-11

- What comparison does James make to describe patience, and why is it significant?
- What do you notice about how suffering and perseverance are connected in this passage?
- How does remembering that “the Lord’s coming is near” change the way we handle hard seasons?
- Where in your life do you feel like you’re “waiting on growth” right now?
- What would it look like to trust God’s process instead of trying to control it?

2. Read Matthew 25:1-13

- What stands out to you about the difference between the wise and foolish in this parable?
- Why do you think readiness couldn't be borrowed or shared at the last moment?
- What does this passage reveal about spiritual preparation?
- If Jesus returned today, what in your life would reflect readiness?
- What is one area where you may be spiritually “asleep” or unprepared?

3. Read Romans 8:18-25

- What does Paul say about present suffering compared to future glory?

- What does this passage teach us about waiting and hope?
- How does this perspective challenge the way you view your current struggles?
- Where do you need to shift from frustration to hope?
- How can you actively wait on God instead of passively drifting?

4. Read 2 Peter 3:8-14

- What does this passage reveal about why God delays His return?
- How does understanding God's patience change your perspective on waiting?
- What kind of life does Peter say we should live in light of eternity?
- How does eternity reshape your priorities right now?
- What is one practical way you can live with greater urgency this week?

APPLICATION

- If you truly lived like Jesus could return at any moment, what would change in your priorities, relationships, or daily decisions?

CLOSING PRAYER

Jesus, keep our hearts awake and expectant. Help us live with eternity in mind and trust You in the waiting. Amen.