PASTOR RICK'S DAILY HOPE

A FAITH THAT HANDLES DELAYS PATIENTLY
A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't
Rick Warren

"Be PATIENT, my friends, until the Lord comes back. Remember how patient <u>farmers</u> are as they WAIT for their valuable crops to mature and ripen. They also WAIT PATIENTLY for the spring and fall rains to do their work. <u>You too must be patient</u>! <u>Don't give up</u>, because the Lord could arrive at any time! And <u>don't complain</u> – especially against each other – or God will judge you! Remember that the real Judge is standing at the door! Another example of patience in the face of suffering is <u>God's prophets</u> who spoke God's truth in hard times. Today, we honor them for their <u>patient endurance</u> when they <u>suffered unjustly</u>. Then remember the <u>example of Job</u>. Job continued to patiently trust God while enduring great pain. But we know how God fulfilled his purpose for Job and that his plan for Job <u>ended in good</u> because the Lord always treats us with tender compassion and merciful kindness."
James 5:7-11

WHEN IS WAITING PATIENTLY AN ACT OF FAITH?

1. WHEN _____
"Be PATIENT, my friends, until the Lord comes back. Remember how patient <u>farmers</u> are as they WAIT for their valuable crops to mature and ripen. They also WAIT PATIENTLY for the spring and fall rains to do their work. <u>You too must be patient</u>! <u>Don't give up</u>, because the Lord could arrive at any time!"
James 5:7-8

2. WHEN _____
"Another example of patience in the face of suffering is <u>God's prophets</u> who spoke God's truth in hard times. Today, we honor them for their <u>patient endurance</u> when they <u>suffered unjustly</u>." James 5:10-11

"Don't <u>grumble about each other</u>, my brothers and sisters, or <u>God will judge you</u>. Remember, the great Judge is coming. He is standing at the door!"
James 5:9 (NLT)

3. WHEN _____
"Then remember the <u>example of Job</u>. Job <u>continued to patiently trust</u> God while <u>enduring great pain</u>. But we know how God fulfilled his purpose for Job and that his plan for Job <u>ended in good</u> because the Lord always treats us with tender compassion and merciful kindness." James 5:11

WHAT SHOULD I REMEMBER WHILE I'M WAITING?

1. REMEMBER _____
"Be patient, my friends, until the Lord comes back." James 5:7

"Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near." James 5:8

"Don't complain . . . the Judge is ready to come!" James 5:9 (NCV)

2. REMEMBER _____
"We consider BLESSED those who have persevered." James 5:11 (NIV)

"Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for <u>after a while</u> we will reap <u>a harvest of blessing</u> IF we don't get discouraged and give up."
Galatians 6:9 (TLB)

3. REMEMBER _____
"We know how God <u>fulfilled his purpose</u> for Job and that his plan for Job <u>ended in good</u> because the Lord always treats us with tender compassion and merciful kindness." James 5:11

"'I know what I am planning for you' says the Lord. 'I have good plans for you, not plans to hurt you. I'll give you hope and a good future!'"
Jeremiah 29:11 (NCV)

HOW DO I TRUST GOD DURING A DELAY?

1. LIKE FARMERS, _____
"I <u>wait expectantly</u>, trusting God to help, for He has promised."
Psalm 130:5 (TLB)

"No one who waits for my help will be disappointed." Isaiah 49:23 (GNT)

2. LIKE THE PROPHETS, _____
"It is good to <u>wait quietly</u> for the salvation of the Lord." Lamentations 3:26

3. LIKE JOB, _____
"If a man dies, can he come back to life? I will wait for better times; I will wait till this time of trouble is ended." Job 14:14 (GNT)

"Those who wait on the Lord will find new strength. They will fly high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint!"
Isaiah 40:31 (NLT)

"The Lord isn't being slow in keeping his promise to return. Instead, <u>he's waiting on you</u>, <u>being patient with you</u>, because <u>he doesn't want anyone to be lost</u> and perish. Instead he is giving you time to change your heart and turn to him!" 2 Peter 3:9

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