

# TENSION and TRIUMPH

## Sermon Study - 3.22.2026

### Leader's Corner

Patience

James 5:7-12

**Main Passage:** James 5:7-12

**Summary:**

James reminds us that Jesus really is coming back, even if the wait feels long. While we wait, we are not called to passive faith but to patient endurance, unity, and readiness. The nearness of Christ's return should shape how we live, how we treat others, and where we place our trust.

**Main Idea:**

Jesus is coming back, so live with patient endurance, unity, and readiness.

**Main Practice:**

Practice active patience — living faithfully, staying unified, and trusting the finished work of Jesus while we wait.

### Prayer and Praise

**Community Prayer:**

Lord Jesus,  
You promised that You would return,  
and even when the waiting feels long,  
we trust that Your timing is perfect.  
Teach us to wait with patience,  
to live with endurance,  
and to keep our hearts ready.  
Guard us from grumbling,  
keep us united in love,  
and help us trust Your finished work, not our own.  
Make us faithful until the day we see You face to face.  
Amen.

**Worship:**

*Even So Come*

*Christ Be Magnified*

# Group Discussion

## Recall

- What stood out to you from the sermon this week?
- When you hear “Jesus is coming back,” what emotions or thoughts come to mind?

## Understand

- Read James 5:7–12. What examples does James use to describe patience?
- Why do you think people struggle with the idea that Jesus has not returned yet?
- How does 2 Peter 3:9 help explain God’s timing?
- What does it mean that waiting is not a waiting room but a training room?

## Apply

- Where do you feel impatient with God right now?
- What does endurance look like in your current season of life?
- How can grumbling damage unity in families, friendships, or the church?

## Analyze

- Why do you think James connects Jesus’ return with unity and honesty (v. 12)?
- How can trying to prove ourselves spiritually keep us from trusting grace?
- In what ways do people live as if Jesus is not coming back?

## Evaluate

- If Jesus returned this week, what would you want to be different in your life?
- Are you living more like you trust yourself, or like you trust Jesus?
- Where do you need to grow in readiness, endurance, or faith?

## Create

- What is one daily change you could make to live more ready for Christ’s return?
- What is one relationship where you need to pursue unity instead of grumbling?
- What is one area where you need to trust grace instead of performance?

# Practice

## Group Practice:

Spend a few minutes in prayer together asking:

- Lord, help us wait with endurance.
- Lord, keep us unified.
- Lord, make us ready.

## Individual Challenge (this week): Choose one:

- Practice patience in a situation where you normally complain
- Repair unity with someone you’ve been frustrated with
- Start each day saying: “Jesus, help me live ready today.”

## Spiritual Practice:

Live this week with the mindset: Waiting is training, not wasting.

## Further Study

### **Read during the week:**

- 2 Peter 3:8–13 — Why the Lord waits
- Matthew 28:16–20 — The mission isn't finished
- John 17:20–23 — Jesus' prayer for unity
- Matthew 24:42–44 — Be ready
- Romans 8:18–25 — Waiting with hope

### **Reflection question for the week:**

*If Jesus really is coming back, what needs to change in how I live today?*