



<b>DATE</b>	December 16, 2018
<b>SPEAKER</b>	David Smith
<b>TITLE</b>	Be Patient
<b>SERIES</b>	Hearing and knowing what God says is only half of what it means to follow Him. We then need to apply what we know and act! Let's look at what James, the half brother of Jesus, says about giving Him authority in our lives, so we don't live halfheartedly.

We are products of an instant gratification society. We don't like to wait for anything. But what if the waiting rooms of life are God's best classrooms? Patience is trusting God to keep His promises in His perfect timing.

"Be still in the presence of the Lord, and wait patiently for Him to act." – *Psalm 37:7*

1. A myth of being patient is that one must passively wait; in reality, patience is an action. Think of an example when you or someone else acted in patience. What were the results?
2. How does The Bible describe patience in 1 Corinthians 13:4 and Galatians 6:9? What benefits of patience can we see in Ephesians 4:2 and in Proverbs 15:18?
3. Revisit Romans 12:12 to view the three best things we can do in our relationship with God. Think of examples in The Bible of people who followed these instructions.
4. Consider the elements of patience: suffering, patience, and blessings. Of the three, which is the hardest for you to accept and/or put into action?
5. Why is God patient with sinners? (2 Peter 3:8, 9)
6. In the Bible, perseverance is often mentioned in the same verse as patience (Matthew 24:13, Romans 5:3-4, Galatians 6:9, Hebrews 10:23, 10:36, James 1:2-4). Why do these two traits go hand in hand? What is the difference between them?
7. Who/what do you need to be more patient about? What steps will you take this week?