

# TO GO

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1. What's your initial reaction to James' instruction to "be patient?" Do you wish he said something else? Why or why not?
2. Do you consider yourself a "patient" person? Explain. Would those closest to you agree with you?
3. James gives us the "picture of patience" in the farmer because the farmer needs to remain both disciplined (to wait & to work) and dependent (upon God). How does that picture encourage you and/or challenge you?
4. There's no doubt that we're prone to impatience as individuals and in our communities (v. 9 & 12). How has impatience crept into your own life? Have you experienced its effect in a community or group setting?
5. As James teaches, when it comes to being patient, suffering is a given. What suffering (big or small, long or short) have you needed to persevere through? What suffering are you enduring right now?
  - a. What's been the result of that perseverance/steadfastness/endurance? What effect has it had on you and your surrounding community?
6. When we're connected to Jesus, it's amazing what we can endure, how patient we can be, and how gracious God is. How has God blessed you in seasons of suffering/waiting/perseverance? What have you learned about God in those seasons, that maybe you wouldn't have, unless you went through what you did?
7. What's at least one thing you need to apply from today's text and message?