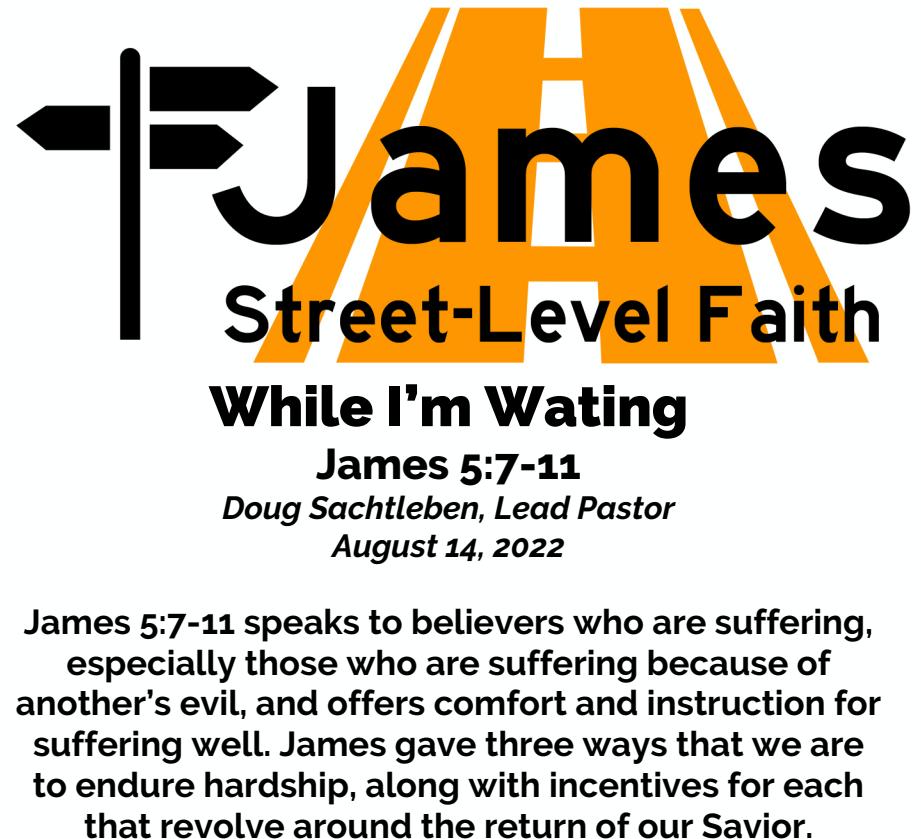


Questions

1. What was the last season in life that you found yourself waiting on the Lord in the midst of painful and difficult circumstances? How did you respond? What did you learn?
2. One scholar says James 5:7 describes a kind of "militant patience," that is patience that meditates on the return of Jesus as the just judge. How can such thinking affect your perspective on present suffering that is caused by another's sin?
3. Until the just Judge returns, we are in a season of God's patience (cf. 2 Peter 3:9, 1 Timothy 1:16). How did God's patience benefit you and what does it mean for those who are unsaved today?
4. What are some practical ways to fulfill the command of James 5:8 to "establish your hearts"? Think in terms of ways to strengthen your own heart and ways that you could help a brother or sister.
5. There is a synergism about the command to "establish your hearts." In other words, as believers this is an area where we cooperate with God. He gives strength to our hearts, and yet we are called to establish our hearts. How does that truth provide comfort and incentive?
6. In the past, have you sinfully complaining about people and circumstances as you endured hardship? What steps can you take in the future that might be different?

*After each service, if you need prayer,
someone will be available up front to pray with or for you.*

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James 5:7-11 speaks to believers who are suffering, especially those who are suffering because of another's evil, and offers comfort and instruction for suffering well. James gave three ways that we are to endure hardship, along with incentives for each that revolve around the return of our Savior.

Connecting James 5:7-11 back to the previous verses ("therefore")

Three Practical Commands for Suffering Well

1. Be Patient (5:7)

3. Be Uncomplaining (5:9)

2. Be Steadfast (5:8, 10-11)