

Text: James 5:7-11

We Must Wait on God rather than Taking Matters into Our Own Hands

- Don't _____.
- The antidote for fighting back is being patient until _____
_____.
- Take _____ against oppressors.

Three Helpful Examples

- Farmers learn to live within _____.
- The OT prophets spoke for decades with _____.
- Job learned to wait for _____.

Someday God will Make All Things Right

- Be patient. God will _____ His people.
- While you wait, _____.
- While you wait, _____.

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- How is the phrase "I can't wait" linked to a lack of patience? How might it also be a statement of hope? What is something you "can't wait" for?
- What are some examples of suffering, oppression, and injustice in our culture?
- What options did James' original readers have to get justice and overcome their oppressors?
- Why do you think James teaches his readers to wait patiently for the Lord's return instead of taking matters into their own hands?
- What types of "prophetic action" can we take against the injustices, oppression, and suffering we experience?
- What do we learn from farmers, prophets, and the OT character Job about patience and hope?
- How does knowing that God will eventually make everything right help us live patiently and hopefully amid suffering and hardship?
- The temptation to fight back is strong. How can we stay positive and plot against powerful oppressors without becoming violent and abusive ourselves?
- How might the hope of the Lord's return shape your perspective and actions this week?