

IV. ENDURE WHILE YOU WAIT

- A. James says to let steadfastness produce the fullness of Christ.

⁴ *"But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."* James 1:4

¹³ *"till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;"*
Ephesians 4:13

- B. Do not quit. God is more concerned about your Christlikeness than your comfort.

¹⁰ *"But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you."*
I Peter 5:10

V. PRAY WHILE YOU WAIT

- A. James says to pray for wisdom asking in total faith.

⁵ *"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."*

⁶ *"But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind."*

⁷ *"For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;"*

⁸ *"he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."*
James 1:5-8

- B. Ask God to strengthen your patience.

¹² *"rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;"* Romans 12:12

¹¹ *"strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;"*
Colossians 1:11

PATIENCE: TRUST GOD WHILE YOU WAIT

JUICY FRUIT Transform Your Character

Patience: Trusting God While You Wait Pastor Steve Reynolds

Introduction:

- A. When life squeezes you, what character spills out?

Character matters.

Your true character is revealed during adversity. Unfortunately, many times, what spills out is not positive.

It's time to transform your character and experience the "juicy life" found through the Fruit Of The Spirit.

- B. Join us for our 9-week Fall Spiritual Growth Campaign and Teaching Series called JUICY FRUIT: TRANSFORM YOUR CHARACTER. Each week we will do a deep dive into one of the nine fruits of the Spirit. These are godly character traits that God wants to develop in your life.

²² *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,*
²³ *gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law."*
Galatians 5:22-23

Oct 4	Love: Being The Hands & Feet Of Jesus
Oct 11	Joy: Experiencing Joy At All Times
Oct 18	Peace: Overcoming Worry & Conflict
TODAY	Patience: Trusting God While You Wait
Nov 1	Kindness: Showing Genuine Care
Nov 8	Goodness: Choosing To Do Right
Nov 15	Faithfulness: Unwavering Commitment To God
Nov 22	Gentleness: Managing Anger
Nov 29	Self-Control: Mastering Impulses & Actions

TEXT: James 1:1-8

The Key Verse For Juicy Fruit Patience:

⁴ *"But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."*
James 1:4

HOW TO TRUST GOD WHILE YOU WAIT

Here is what the “juicy life” process looks like:

Fruit of the Spirit plus Consistency plus Time equals Godly Character.

I. HOPE WHILE YOU WAIT

A. James is writing this book to suffering people.

¹ *"James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings."* James 1:1

⁵⁹ *"And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.'"*

⁶⁰ *"Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, 'Lord, do not charge them with this sin. And, when he had said this, he fell asleep."*

¹ *Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles."*

² *And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him."* Acts 7:59-8:2

B. You will suffer, but find hope that you are not alone. You have God's sovereign and caring support.

¹⁴ *"Wait on the LORD; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!"* Psalm 27:14

II. REJOICE WHILE YOU WAIT

A. James says to choose a joyful attitude in the midst of suffering.

² *"My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,"* James 1:1

⁴ *"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!"* Philippians 4:4

B. Adversity will come in various forms, but God expects a joyful response in every situation.

⁶ *"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,"* I Peter 1:6

²³ *"And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely."*

²⁴ *Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks."*

²⁵ *But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them."* Acts 16:23-25

III. BELIEVE WHILE YOU WAIT

A. James says to know that adversity is a test of your faith.

³ *"knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."* James 1:3

² *"And you shall remember that the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not."*

Deuteronomy 8:2

⁷ *"that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,"* I Peter 1:7

B. During times of adversity Satan will tempt you to doubt God's goodness, but you must keep believing.

⁸ *"Look, I go forward, but He is not there, and backward, but I cannot perceive Him;"*

⁹ *When He works on the left hand, I cannot behold Him; when He turns to the right hand, I cannot see Him."*

¹⁰ *But He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold."* Job 23:8-10