

Be Patient
Romans 12:12
December 11, 2016

1. Pastor Jim mentioned that sometimes God allows suffering in our life to help us develop endurance and patience. This is what Paul speaks of in Romans 5:3. How has past or current suffering produced greater patience and endurance in your life?
2. The fifth commandment of love calls us to be patient in affliction. Patience is not something that normally accompanies suffering. Can you describe a particular time in your life where you attempted to escape suffering before God could accomplish His work in you? Looking back, was there a certain lesson God was trying to teach you? Have you had to repeat that lesson?
3. What lessons can you learn from the testimonies of Linda Hamlet and Lenski Llorens? How do their stories inspire you to be patient in affliction?
4. How might our perspective (western culture) on suffering be different from the rest of the world? How is it easier for the American church to avoid suffering? Do you think this might actually be a bad thing?
5. Pastor Jim mentioned that being patient is not passive. It is active. How might God be calling you to be patient in your current circumstances? Describe what patience will look like in your suffering.
6. Take time to pray with your group. Ask God for the patience needed in your suffering. Take time to examine what God may be trying to accomplish in you during your suffering.