



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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James 5:7-12 Study Hints for Discussion

[Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further](#)

are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The [Class Preparation Guide](#) includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. Why are farmers good examples of being patient?

They plow their fields and plant their grain; then, they must wait patiently for the rains to come to germinate their seed, grow their grain, and then make their fields ready for harvest. They do not get a crop immediately after they plant their seed, and they depend on the rains coming at the right times. As Christians, we wait patiently in suffering as we serve the Lord and depend upon the Lord to meet all our needs.

2. How can Christians strengthen their hearts?

By prayerful Bible reading and trusting in the words of the Bible as the Holy Spirit gives them understanding and greater trust in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. By learning and trusting in all the promises of God.

3. How are God's prophets examples of suffering and patience?

They faithfully served the Lord even while suffering persecutions. They patiently waited on the Lord and His timing for everything. Some spoke of Jesus' coming, but they did not see His coming in their own day.

4. With what two qualities did James describe the Lord? Why are these qualities important to you and others?

The Lord God is compassionate and merciful. As human beings we have all sinned and deserve the just condemnation and punishment of our Lord and King. Because God is compassionate and merciful Jesus came and gave His life as a sacrifice for our sins so God could mercifully and justly forgive us and give us the gift of eternal life if we repent of our sins and receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

5. How can someone who makes oaths fall under condemnation?

They can make an oath that they will do something knowing they do not intend to keep their promise; then, they come under the condemnation of God and others for their dishonesty.

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