

WORD

WHAT

What does the Bible say?

We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Hebrews 6:12

A lot of times, what we pray for takes a while to come. In these situations we can know that we have faith when we have the patience to wait. We should have the same patience for everything we believe God for, including our finances. How do we show our patience as we hold on to God's promise?

- **We should not be passive.**

We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Hebrews 6:12

We should not become lazy while waiting for God's promise to come. Waiting is not a reason to just stop and be idle. We can follow the example of the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11 who continued to obey God as they looked forward to the fulfillment of His promises. Likewise, as we deal with our financial concerns, our faith can be seen as we patiently keep on working, and sowing generously. What are you believing God for and what are you doing while waiting for it?

- **We should continue to wait.**

Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains.

James 5:7

As much as possible, we want instant answers, but we need to understand that sometimes God wants us to go through a process. Farmers know this and they patiently wait and do not give up. They know that a seed sown will take time to bear fruit. It is the same with finances. What thoughts do you need to stay away from while waiting? Why do you need to do this?

- **We should continue to pray.**

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 4:6

Praying and lifting up our concerns to God will keep worrying at bay as we wait for His answers. We can continue to pray for a specific concern even if we already asked God for it. Jesus Himself encourages us to do this. More than this, our prayers can be seasoned with thanksgiving, which shows our faith in God's goodness. How can you cultivate a heart that is grateful?

SO WHAT

What is the relevance of the Word to my life?

- According to James 2:26, what is the mark of faith? Why is being idle not a sign of faith?
- What benefits do we get when we patiently wait?
- Why is it good for us to ask God for our needs? What grows when we tell God about our concerns even if He already them before we ask?

NOW WHAT

How do I apply the Word to my life?

- As you look forward to an answered prayer, what can you do in the next few days to keep yourself from being idle?
- Choose a Bible verse to ponder on this week to help you be patient while waiting. What other things can you do to help you wait patiently?
- How do you encourage someone you know who is losing hope to continue to pray and believe? Who can you help this week in this area?