

Certainty... in a world of doubt

The Gospel of Luke

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, May 20/21, 2017 Ray Davis

“Patience” Luke 8:40-56

How do you hold onto your faith when God doesn't make sense? What do you do when life doesn't go as you had hoped it would? What do you do when circumstances seem to contradict God's love, wisdom, & power?

Patience is love that endures under difficult circumstances, without giving up or giving in to worry or bitterness. Gal 5:22; 1Cor 13:4

God's Delays and Denials:

- His schedule and strategy will often confuse us. Isa 55:8-9
- He is working lovingly, skillfully and powerfully for our good and His glory doing a thousand things we can't see with our finite minds. Rom 8:28; Job 42:2
- Worry is belief that God will get it wrong and bitterness is belief that God did get it wrong. Both are signs of impatience, and therefore unbelief and pride. Pro 3:5-6

Lessons We Can Learn:

- God brings down the proud and lifts up the humble. James 1:9-10
- Whatever you give up to follow Christ is nothing compared to what you will gain. Phil 3:8; Matt 13:44
- There are substantially important things you will learn about God and yourself no other way. Rom 5:1-5

How to Be Patient:

- Proximity is not the same as reaching out and touching Jesus by faith. Heb 11:1
- God's glory and my good (satisfaction) are mutually inclusive endeavors regardless of circumstances. 1Cor 10:31; Phil 4:4
- God is the ultimate parent who takes us by the hand and leads us through the most difficult circumstances. V54; Matt 7:11

Growing Notes

- 1) Read the three questions in the intro of this sermon. Have you ever struggled with these questions? Explain. What is patience and how will it help you to hang onto your faith in hard times?
- 2) Read Luke 8:40-56. What stands out to you from this story? Retell the story in your own words. Review the points under “God's Delays and Denials”. How do you think Jairus was feeling about Jesus' delay (vv42-48) and then to find out that it was too late (v49)? What is true about God's thoughts and plans (Isa55:8-9)? What does worry and bitterness reveal?
- 3) Review the points under “Lessons We Can Learn”. Compare and contrast Jairus and the woman. How does this story show us that God brings down the proud and lifts up the humble? How do both Jairus and the woman give and get more than they ever hoped for? What are some things that we can learn about God and ourselves through God's delays & denials?
- 4) Review the points under “How to Be Patient”. What is the difference between proximity and reaching out to touch Jesus by faith? How can we live for God's glory and our satisfaction regardless of our circumstances? Jesus lost His Father's hand on the cross so that we could be guaranteed that if He has us by the hand He will never ever let go, and He will bring us through the darkest night. Explain. What is God speaking to you? Pray.