

SEIZING THE “WHAT'S NEXT?”

James 5:7-11 • April 10, 2022

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INTRODUCTION:

A. We are re-calculating, re-calibrate and re-enter the opportunity in life.

I. WE HAVE BEEN PATIENTLY WAITING...ON A GOOD DAY

A. Patience is a **virtue**.

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience....

— Galatians 5:22

Love is patient and kind....

— I Corinthians 13:4

B. We have been patient as an act of **faith**.

Dear brothers and sisters, be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen.

You, too, must be patient.

— James 5:7-8a

C. We have been patiently hanging in there because we know **God** is in control.

Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

— James 5:7

D. We have waited **expectantly**.

...I wait expectantly, trusting God to help, as He has promised.

— Psalm 130:5

"I will wait for better times; I will wait till this time of trouble is ended."

— Job 14:14

Those who wait on the Lord will find new strength.

— Isaiah 40:31

II. SEIZING THE NEW THAT GOD IS DOING

A. Like patience moving out in the best direction is a **choice**.

...throw off your old sinful nature... Put on your new nature, created to be like God...

— Ephesians 4:22-24

B. Choose to embrace the new things **God** is doing.

The Lord says, "Forget the former things and do not dwell on the past. Instead look at the new things I am going to do. They are already starting to happen. Can you see what I've begun to do?"

— Isaiah 43:18-19

C. **Excel** at what really matters.

Teach us to make the most of our time, so that we may grow in wisdom. — Psalm 90:12

An intelligent person aims at wise actions, but a fool starts off in many directions.

— Proverbs 17:24

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else....

— Matthew 6:33

• Make a **list** of what you've learned

• **Evaluate**: What goes, stays and needs to change

• **Prioritize** the changes – you can't change everything at once

• Paul's recommendation:

And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus....

— Hebrews 12:1-2

CONCLUSION: