**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | You’re Never a Failure Till You Quit |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Galatians 5:22, James 1:3-12 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1437 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. Galatians 5:22
      1. The word “longsuffering” means “patient.”
      2. The fruit of the Spirit is patience.
   2. Are you an impatient person?
      1. How do you handle interruptions?
      2. How do you deal with irritations?
         1. Long lines?
         2. Traffic jams?
         3. Flat tires?
      3. How do you deal with inconveniences?
         1. We now have fast foods, the fast lane at the checkout counter, instant coffee, and microwaves.
         2. Everything is fast because we want it, and we want it now.
   3. We are an impatient people.
   4. In addition to inconveniences, how do you deal with incapacities?
      1. How do you react when there’s a situation with your health or in your family that you want to change but you don’t have the capacity to change?
   5. How do you deal with imponderables?
      1. Not only is there nothing you can do about the situation, but you can’t even understand it.
         1. It doesn’t even make sense.
      2. We have need of patience.
   6. Why do we have these irritations, incapacities, imponderables, and inconveniences?
      1. Romans 5:3
      2. These things come into our lives not only to reveal our impatience, but God is also allowing them to grow patience in our lives.
      3. The fruit of the Spirit is patience.
         1. These irritations in our lives are not obstacles; they are opportunities to grow patience.
   7. In today’s message, we will look at what patience is, what it does, and how to have it.
2. what is patience? (galatians 5:22)
   1. Galatians 5:22
      1. In the King James Version of Scripture, “patience” is called “long-suffering.”
   2. Patience is not merely the ability to put up with a tedious task.
      1. Nor is it just the ability to endure pain, suffering, or irritable people.
         1. This is patience, but patience is also more than this.
   3. It has been said that patience is the spirit which can bear things, not simply with resignation but with blazing hope.
      1. It is not patience which grimly waits for the end, but patience radiantly hopes for the dawn.
      2. This is what the word “long-suffering” means.
         1. It is not simply sticking it out, not just grinning and bearing it; but it is saying that whatever befalls us, Jesus does all things well.
            1. And in the midst of this, we will give Him praise.
            2. This is patience, endurance, and long-suffering.
   4. If we do not learn patience, then we’ll not learn anything else.
      1. It takes discipline at the piano to be able to play well.
         1. If we don’t have patience, then we’ll not know music.
      2. If you’re a student and don’t have patience, then you’ll not learn the topic you’re studying.
      3. If we do not have patience in life, then we are a failure.
         1. It is not that we will be a failure, but we are already a failure.
         2. A person is not a failure until he quits.
            1. If we quit, we are always a failure.
3. What patience does (james 1:3-12)
   1. Patience is important.
      1. It allows us to be full-grown Christians.
         1. People can look at us and see Jesus Christ.
      2. It allows us to be victorious in every circumstance.
         1. We can triumph over everything that comes to us.
      3. It brings sufficiency to our lives; every need is met.
      4. It brings us perfect peace and tranquility.
         1. All of these things come through patience.
   2. James 1:3-4
      1. The testing of our faith comes through irritations, imponderables, inconveniences, trials, and tears.
      2. In this passage, the word “perfect” means “mature.”
   3. God wants us to be full-grown, mature Christians.
      1. There is no maturity without patience and no patience without trials.
      2. If we are not mature, then we are not like the Lord Jesus Christ.
      3. God wants to bring us to the fullness of Christ.
         1. Ephesians 3:19
         2. The way that God does this is to allow us to have trials and tribulations in order that we might be mature.
      4. Children are not patient.
         1. They do not know the difference between “no” and “not yet.”
         2. God wants to grow us up and make us mature.
            1. The only way we will learn maturity is through tribulation that leads to patience.
      5. We do not want to have any problems.
         1. We want to go through life in perfect ease.
            1. If we do, then we will never be mature Christians.
      6. Tribulation brings patience, and patience makes us mature.
         1. If we are having difficulty, then we should ask for wisdom.
            1. James 1:5
         2. Many times when tribulation comes, we ask the Lord to take it away.
            1. That ought not to be our prayer to begin with.

Not, “Lord, take it away,” but “Lord, give me wisdom.”

What are we supposed to learn in this situation?

* + - 1. Don’t waste your sorrows and troubles.
         1. If God is bringing these things into our lives to mature us and it is a test, then we need to pray to God to give us the wisdom to pass the test so He will not keep giving it.
    1. The fruit of patience is maturity.
  1. We want to be victorious Christians.
     1. James 1:12
        1. In this passage, the word “endure” means “patience.”
     2. The Apostle Paul said that we are to reign in this life.
        1. Romans 5:17
     3. We are to be victors in this life.
        1. A child is not a victor.
           1. A spiritual child is a victim.
        2. God wants us to be strong.
           1. He does not want us to be putty in the devil’s hands.
        3. He wants us to be victorious warriors.
           1. The only way that we are going to do this is by living victoriously in the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 2:14

* + 1. When trials come and we endure, then we mature.
       1. Then, when we mature and the devil comes with these trials, we are victors rather than victims because we are strong.
       2. Proverbs 25:28
          1. Someone who does not have any rule over their own spirit has never learned maturity.

They have no patience.

They are like a city that is broken down and has no walls.

The enemy can come and go at will.

Their life, home, business, and witness are in shambles because they have no rule over their own spirit.

They have never learned patience.

* + - 1. We are supposed to endure until we mature.
      2. When the enemy comes, no matter what happens, begin to praise God.
         1. If the trial is from God, then why shouldn’t we praise Him?
         2. If it is from the devil, then praise God anyway.

The last thing the devil wants us to do is to praise God.

* + - * 1. 1 Thessalonians 5:18
  1. Patience is necessary to prosperity.
     1. James 5:7-8
        1. In this verse, the word “husbandman” means “farmer.”
        2. We cannot hurry the harvest.
     2. If we want prosperity, then we are going to have to have patience.
        1. Galatians 6:9
     3. The law of the harvest is that we reap what we sow, more than we sow, and later than we sow.
        1. The reason many of us do not reap is that we do not wait.
           1. Patience is necessary.
        2. First, the farmer has the former rain (the rain in the Spring).
           1. He puts the seed in the ground, and God rains upon it.

This causes the grain of wheat to begin to grow.

* + - 1. Then, the farmer has to wait.
      2. Finally, there comes the latter rain in the Fall.
         1. This causes the shoot to grow and the grain to form and ripen.

Then, it is ready for the harvest.

* + - 1. The farmer waits patiently on the former and latter rains.
    1. The Bible says that we are to wait on the Lord.
       1. Psalm 27:14
       2. Isaiah 30:18
       3. Delays are not denials.
       4. If we want God to answer our prayers, then we are going to have to learn to wait on the Lord.
          1. The Lord does not answer right away because He wants us to grow.

It is His way of ripening grain and ripening us.

The answer is not ripe yet.

* + - 1. With God, timing is far more important than time.
         1. Galatians 6:9
         2. God knows what is good for the child and when it is good for the child.
  1. Patience is necessary for tranquility.
     1. James 5:10-11
     2. There is no happiness and tranquility without patience.
        1. An impatient person is always an unhappy person.
        2. A person cannot be happy and impatient at the same time.
     3. If you are having trouble with patience, then try a little laughter.
        1. Learn to laugh at your problems.
           1. We will never run out of anything to laugh at.
        2. Laughter is not frivolous.
           1. God made us to laugh.
     4. God wants us to have a certain amount of joy.
     5. There are some things that we will not have tranquility about until we accept them with patience.
        1. In life, there are a lot of things we cannot change.
        2. Philippians 4:11

1. how to have patience (galatians 5:22)
   1. The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, and long-suffering.
      1. Galatians 5:22
      2. The sequence of the fruits of the Spirit is no accident.
         1. Long-suffering or patience is the composite of love, joy, and peace.
            1. 1 Corinthians 13:4
            2. Ephesians 4:2
   2. Loveless people are impatient people.
      1. If a husband is impatient with his wife, then he is not showing her the love that he ought to show her.
      2. If parents are impatient with their children, then they are not showing them the love they ought to show to them.
      3. The problem is not impatience.
         1. The problem is the lack of love.
      4. The secret of success for anything is to see things from the other person’s point of view.
         1. A loveless person is always a selfish person.
            1. He is always looking at things from his own viewpoint.
            2. He never thinks about the other person’s viewpoint.
         2. A successful parent can see life from the child’s point of view.
         3. A successful person in business can see his business from the customer’s point of view.
         4. A loving person sees the other person’s point of view.
         5. This is the reason the Bible says that we forebear one another in love and long-suffering.
            1. Ephesians 4:2
            2. 1 Corinthians 13:4
      5. If someone is impatient with the faults of other people, then it is because he is an unloving person.
      6. We are to be filled with love.
      7. Almost nothing will provoke a person filled with love.
         1. If a person is not filled with love, then almost anything will provoke him.
   3. Not only does patience come from love, but it also comes from joy.
      1. Nehemiah 8:10
         1. The joy of the Lord is our strength.
            1. It takes strength to endure.
      2. The next time we feel the need of patience, we need to check our joy quotient.
         1. Are we rejoicing in the Lord, or has the thing that we have become impatient with made us hateful and spiteful?
            1. Impatient people are nasty people.

Nasty people are people who are not rejoicing in the Lord.

* + 1. We need to learn how to laugh.
       1. Laughter is life’s shock absorber.
    2. Psalm 104:26
       1. God made whales to play in the sea.
    3. If we are having trouble with impatience, then have a little joy.
       1. We need to have a little happiness, fun, and relax a little.
  1. An impatient person is a person with no peace.
     1. He does not have peace because he has his eyes on whatever is making him impatient rather than having his eyes on the Lord.
        1. Isaiah 26:3

1. CONCLUSION
   1. The fruit of the Spirit is long-suffering.
      1. There is no fruit without life.
      2. We cannot manufacture patience.
      3. Galatians 5:22
   2. Galatians 5:25
      1. The only way that fruit will ripen and grow is when it is in the right climate.
      2. You are not going to grow and produce the fruit of the Spirit unless you are walking in the Spirit.
   3. You are never a failure until you quit, and you will never have patience until you abide in the Spirit.
   4. We do not produce the fruit; we bear it.
      1. John 15:7
   5. We cannot bear this fruit without a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.
   6. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   7. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16