

SERMON OUTLINE

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

- a) Galatians 5:22
 - i) The word “longsuffering” means “patient.”
 - ii) The fruit of the Spirit is patience.
- b) Are you an impatient person?
 - i) How do you handle interruptions?
 - ii) How do you deal with irritations?
 - (1) Long lines?
 - (2) Traffic jams?
 - (3) Flat tires?
 - iii) 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.
- c) We are an impatient people.
- d) In addition to inconveniences, how do you deal with incapacities?
 - i) 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?
- e) How do you deal with imponderables?
 - i) 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.
 - ii) We have need of patience.
- f) Why do we have these irritations, incapacities, imponderables, and inconveniences?
 - i) Romans 5:3
 - ii) These things come into our lives not only to reveal our impatience, but God is also allowing them to grow patience in our lives.
 - iii) The fruit of the Spirit is patience.
 - (1) These irritations in our lives are not obstacles; they are opportunities to grow patience.
- g) 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)

- a) Galatians 5:22
 - i) In the King James Version of Scripture, “patience” is called “long-suffering.”
- b) Patience is not merely the ability to put up with a tedious task.
 - i) Nor is it just the ability to endure pain, suffering, or irritable people.
 - (1) This is patience, but patience is also more than this.
- c) It has been said that patience is the spirit which can bear things, not simply with resignation but with blazing hope.

- i) It is not patience which grimly waits for the end, but patience radiantly hopes for the dawn.
- ii) 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.
 - (a) And in the midst of this, we will give Him praise.
 - (b) This is patience, endurance, and long-suffering.
- d) If we do not learn patience, then we’ll not learn anything else.
 - i) 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.
 - ii) If you’re a student and don’t have patience, then you’ll not learn the topic you’re studying.
 - iii) 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.
 - (a) If we quit, we are always a failure.

3) WHAT PATIENCE DOES (JAMES 1:3-12)

- a) Patience is important.
 - i) It allows us to be full-grown Christians.
 - (1) People can look at us and see Jesus Christ.
 - ii) It allows us to be victorious in every circumstance.
 - (1) We can triumph over everything that comes to us.
 - iii) It brings sufficiency to our lives; every need is met.
 - iv) It brings us perfect peace and tranquility.
 - (1) All of these things come through patience.
- b) James 1:3-4
 - i) The testing of our faith comes through irritations, imponderables, inconveniences, trials, and tears.
 - ii) In this passage, the word “perfect” means “mature.”
- c) God wants us to be full-grown, mature Christians.
 - i) There is no maturity without patience and no patience without trials.
 - ii) If we are not mature, then we are not like the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - iii) 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.
 - iv) 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.
 - (a) The only way we will learn maturity is through tribulation that leads to patience.
 - v) We do not want to have any problems.
 - (1) We want to go through life in perfect ease.

- (a) If we do, then we will never be mature Christians.
- vi) Tribulation brings patience, and patience makes us mature.
 - (1) If we are having difficulty, then we should ask for wisdom.
 - (a) James 1:5
 - (2) Many times when tribulation comes, we ask the Lord to take it away.
 - (a) That ought not to be our prayer to begin with.
 - (i) Not, "Lord, take it away," but "Lord, give me wisdom."
 - 1. What are we supposed to learn in this situation?
 - (3) Don't waste your sorrows and troubles.
 - (a) 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.
- vii) The fruit of patience is maturity.
- d) We want to be victorious Christians.
 - i) James 1:12
 - (1) In this passage, the word "endure" means "patience."
 - ii) The Apostle Paul said that we are to reign in this life.
 - (1) Romans 5:17
 - iii) We are to be victors in this life.
 - (1) A child is not a victor.
 - (a) A spiritual child is a victim.
 - (2) God wants us to be strong.
 - (a) He does not want us to be putty in the devil's hands.
 - (3) He wants us to be victorious warriors.
 - (a) The only way that we are going to do this is by living victoriously in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (i) 2 Corinthians 2:14
 - iv) 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
 - (a) Someone who does not have any rule over their own spirit has never learned maturity.
 - (i) They have no patience.
 - (ii) They are like a city that is broken down and has no walls.
 - 1. The enemy can come and go at will.
 - 2. Their life, home, business, and witness are in shambles because they have no rule over their own spirit.
 - a. They have never learned patience.
 - (3) We are supposed to endure until we mature.
 - (4) When the enemy comes, no matter what happens, begin to praise God.
 - (a) If the trial is from God, then why shouldn't we praise Him?
 - (b) If it is from the devil, then praise God anyway.
 - (i) The last thing the devil wants us to do is to praise God.

(c) 1 Thessalonians 5:18

- e) Patience is necessary to prosperity.
 - i) James 5:7-8
 - (1) In this verse, the word “husbandman” means “farmer.”
 - (2) We cannot hurry the harvest.
 - ii) If we want prosperity, then we are going to have to have patience.
 - (1) Galatians 6:9
 - iii) 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.
 - (a) Patience is necessary.
 - (2) First, the farmer has the former rain (the rain in the Spring).
 - (a) He puts the seed in the ground, and God rains upon it.
 - (i) This causes the grain of wheat to begin to grow.
 - (3) Then, the farmer has to wait.
 - (4) Finally, there comes the latter rain in the Fall.
 - (a) This causes the shoot to grow and the grain to form and ripen.
 - (i) Then, it is ready for the harvest.
 - (5) The farmer waits patiently on the former and latter rains.
 - iv) 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.
 - (a) The Lord does not answer right away because He wants us to grow.
 - (i) It is His way of ripening grain and ripening us.
 - 1. The answer is not ripe yet.
 - (5) With God, timing is far more important than time.
 - (a) Galatians 6:9
 - (b) God knows what is good for the child and when it is good for the child.
- f) Patience is necessary for tranquility.
 - i) James 5:10-11
 - ii) 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.
 - iii) If you are having trouble with patience, then try a little laughter.
 - (1) Learn to laugh at your problems.
 - (a) We will never run out of anything to laugh at.
 - (2) Laughter is not frivolous.
 - (a) God made us to laugh.
 - iv) God wants us to have a certain amount of joy.

- v) 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

- 4) HOW TO HAVE PATIENCE (GALATIANS 5:22)
 - a) The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, and long-suffering.
 - i) Galatians 5:22
 - ii) The sequence of the fruits of the Spirit is no accident.
 - (1) Long-suffering or patience is the composite of love, joy, and peace.
 - (a) 1 Corinthians 13:4
 - (b) Ephesians 4:2
 - b) Loveless people are impatient people.
 - i) If a husband is impatient with his wife, then he is not showing her the love that he ought to show her.
 - ii) If parents are impatient with their children, then they are not showing them the love they ought to show to them.
 - iii) The problem is not impatience.
 - (1) The problem is the lack of love.
 - iv) 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.
 - (a) He is always looking at things from his own viewpoint.
 - (b) 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.
 - (a) Ephesians 4:2
 - (b) 1 Corinthians 13:4
 - v) If someone is impatient with the faults of other people, then it is because he is an unloving person.
 - vi) We are to be filled with love.
 - vii) Almost nothing will provoke a person filled with love.
 - (1) If a person is not filled with love, then almost anything will provoke him.
 - c) Not only does patience come from love, but it also comes from joy.
 - i) Nehemiah 8:10
 - (1) The joy of the Lord is our strength.
 - (a) It takes strength to endure.
 - ii) 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?
 - (a) Impatient people are nasty people.
 - (i) Nasty people are people who are not rejoicing in the Lord.
- iii) We need to learn how to laugh.
 - (1) Laughter is life's shock absorber.
- iv) Psalm 104:26
 - (1) God made whales to play in the sea.
- v) 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.
- d) An impatient person is a person with no peace.
 - i) 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

5) CONCLUSION

- a) The fruit of the Spirit is long-suffering.
 - i) There is no fruit without life.
 - ii) We cannot manufacture patience.
 - iii) Galatians 5:22
- b) Galatians 5:25
 - i) The only way that fruit will ripen and grow is when it is in the right climate.
 - ii) You are not going to grow and produce the fruit of the Spirit unless you are walking in the Spirit.
- c) You are never a failure until you quit, and you will never have patience until you abide in the Spirit.
- d) We do not produce the fruit; we bear it.
 - i) John 15:7
- e) We cannot bear this fruit without a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.
- f) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- g) 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.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16