



## Group Guide

# Patience of Prayer

*January 5, 2025*

**Main Passage: Psalm 40:1-5**

## Theological Theme

David waited patiently on the Lord to hear his cry and as he praised God in response, others came to faith.

## Introduction

- ❓ When have you experienced the powerless feeling of facing a natural disaster?
- ❓ When have you faced circumstances in life that made you feel similarly powerless?

## 1. Patient Waiting (Psalm 40:1)

Waiting is a part of every person's life. We all wait for various things: a table at a restaurant, a baby to arrive, a job promotion, a storm to pass, and many other things. Waiting can be exciting or difficult, but we get to choose how we will wait. Some things you dread waiting through, like a medical treatment. Others you excitedly anticipate, like Christmas or a bonus at work. Whatever type of waiting you face, how you wait can be a powerful testimony of your relationship with the Lord.

- ❓ Where do you currently find yourself in a season of waiting? How might remembering God's past faithfulness be an encouragement in this season?
- ❓ How does it feel when you are ignored by someone important to you? How does it encourage you to remember that God has promised to hear His people?
- ❓ Application: Where do you currently need to cry out to God in faith that He hears you?

## 2. New Things (Psalm 40:2-3)

Continuing in praise, David elaborated on the benefits of waiting patiently on the Lord and trusting Him despite our circumstances. Not only did the Lord rescue him from his present situation, but God also established his steps in a new place. David used the imagery of different types of ground to represent the desolate pit of troubles compared with the security of standing on the solid rock.

- ① When have you experienced the difference of these two realities that David described? Which of these do you feel closer to right now?
- ① How has God given you a “new song” as you’ve experienced His faithfulness in your life?
- ① Application: How can you use your experience with waiting to share God’s glory and love with others?

### 3. Blessings from God (Psalm 40:4-5)

David said the one who waits on the Lord and trusts in Him is happy, or blessed. This person experiences ongoing joy in the Lord and is not driven by the waves of daily circumstances. The person who lives in obedience to Scripture will be blessed and will experience the fullness that comes from a strong relationship with the Lord.

- ① How has trust in the Lord blessed you and given you joy beyond present circumstances?
- ① How can trusting the wrong kind of people cause you to neglect waiting on the Lord or rush ahead into a pit? As you feel comfortable and is appropriate, consider sharing an example from your own life.
- ① Application: How will you seek to join the prayer initiatives we are launching as a church this year?

### Conclusion

- ① How has your perspective on waiting been challenged by today’s study?
- ① How can we support one another as a group in waiting faithfully for the Lord over seeking to act in our own wisdom and strength? How is prayer involved in this?
- ① Who can you tell about God’s continued faithfulness in your life?