

GOD I HAVE QUESTIONS

GOD, WHAT'S MY PURPOSE?

Pastor Bryan Loritts – July 3, 2016

Open in prayer. Thank God for all that we have learned during the 'God I Have Questions' series and for Pastor Bryan's message on patience and purpose.

1. Discuss the statement: "If you have been made in the Imago Dei (or "image of God"), God has a purpose on your life."
2. Pastor Bryan spoke of the process an oyster goes through to make a pearl. It all starts with a grain of sand, and there would be no pearl if there were no grain of sand. God wants to turn us into pearls of great price and trophies of grace.
 - Has there been a time in your life when you felt like a frustrated oyster, but in the end the fruit was a beautiful pearl? Discuss how God gave you patience in that situation.
3. Read James 1:2-4.
 - What does the scripture say that our patience should produce?
 - When was the last time you prayed and asked God for patience?
4. Makrothumia, the Greek word for patience, means to be long to anger. It's implied that to "be patient" means that we're in a situation we don't like.
 - "We love the destination but we hate the process." Discuss a time that this has been true for you.
5. Pastor Bryan mentioned that, "the only thing worse than waiting on God is wishing you had waited on Him."
 - Can you think of a time this was true for you?
6. Read James 5:7.
 - "How you navigate your season of sowing will determine how you walk in your season of reaping." Are you willing to identify your season of sowing and be patient through it? What does this mean for your life?
7. Pastor Bryan said that we "don't get to God's delivery room of blessings without first taking a pit stop in His waiting room called patience."
 - Why is it difficult for our culture and for us to be patient in the "waiting room"?

Close in prayer: "Lord, thank you for being a Father who walks with us and develops us in patience on the way to our purpose. May we be a people who exude joy in the "holding pattern" because we know that He who began the good work in us will be faithful to complete it. Help us to trust you in the mean time and allow Your Spirit to work in and transform us. Amen."