




Discussion Guide
Series: Origins Wk 7: Patience
February 16, 2025

Big Idea


 The fact is that none of humanity has been able to hold up its end of the bargain with God. So, God takes it all upon Himself and asks us to have faith in Him and that.

 Icebreaker

What is the strangest food you have ever tried? Did you like it?

 Discussion Questions

1. Overall, do you feel like a patient person or not? If you could grow in patience, in what ways or areas of life would that be? Would you agree that impatience is fertile soil within which sin can grow? If so, share examples of the type of sin that can result from unchecked impatience.
2. Before reading our primary Scripture for today (Genesis 15), who were we introduced to in Genesis 12 and what was God's promise to them? What made God's promise difficult for these individuals to trust/understand? Is there a promise you have received from God that you are finding it difficult to trust in and understand? If so, what is it?
3. Read Genesis 15:1-6. In this set of passages, what specifically is Abram struggling with? What things does God do to address Abram's struggle? Lastly, what made Abram righteous?
4. Who wrote Galatians and in what timeframe as compared to Genesis 15? Read Galatians 3:7-9 & Galatians 5:4-6. What is to make us righteous? What is the appropriate, or designed, relationship between faith and works? What can one do to arrive at this appropriate design?
5. Read Genesis 15:9-10 & 17-18a (end where different regions begin). What is the meaning and significance of all of this? How do we handle, or arrange, such things today? Focusing on how "*the smoking firepot with a blazing torch*" passed between the pieces, who is represented by these items? Was Abram asked to pass between the pieces? What does your answer to that last portion of the question communicate and why is it significant? Who, or what, does it point forward to in the Bible? How does this make you feel?
6. Read Genesis 16:1-3. In their humanness, what are Abram & Sarai seen doing (that is related to impatience) somewhat shortly after the powerful events of Genesis 15? How does this relate to the following main point from this week's sermon: *Not trusting in God's promises leads to impatience, which can lead to sin*? How can this play out in your life?

 Concluding Questions

- What promises from God do you struggle to trust because they surpass your own limitations?
- In what areas of your life are you allowing impatience to lead to sin?

 Prayer

Besides personal prayer requests, please begin to pray for the Lenten Season which we, as a church along with Christians all around the world, enter on Ash Wed., 3/5. This is a special time of preparation for us leading up to our intent remembrance of Jesus' death (Good Friday) followed by His resurrection (Easter Sunday). Pray that the Lord draws many to Him this season for the first time or in deeper ways!