Walk the Talk #9 Pastor Mark Jealouse

*The Epistle of James* March 23, 2025

**Walk the Talk**

*- Don’t Give Up* **-**James 5:7-12

* Review from last week - Persevering faith is demonstrated by daily:
	+ Acknowledging God’s sovereignty over our lives.
	+ Obediently following the will of God.
	+ Confidently trusting in the justice of God.
* Persevering faith is demonstrated by daily:
	+ Practicing patience in suffering.
		- In light of this suffering you are experiencing, and the judgement coming to those rich oppressors, be patient until the Lord’s coming.
* Patience – enduring under provocation.
	+ Waiting with the right attitude.
	+ Staying put and standing fast, even though you want to quit or run away.
	+ Endure and expect.
* The example of the farmer:
	+ Understands the process.
		- Waiting on the Lord is normal – suffering for the Lord is normal.
	+ Relies on things out of their control.
		- Honour God with what we can control and patiently leave with God those things that are outside our control.
	+ Continues to work while waiting.
		- Keep working even as we patiently wait.
	+ Understands the value of the crop.
		- We are waiting for Jesus.
* Stand firm, strengthen your heart.
	+ Our hearts are strengthened by each other, by the church, by doing life in community with other believers.
* Do not grumble against one another.
	+ Impatience with God can lead to impatience with each other.
	+ Don’t allow impatience in your suffering to lead to infighting in the church.
* The example of the prophets:
	+ They all suffered greatly at the hands of other people.
		- Even though they were in the will of God.
	+ Obedience to God is not a guarantee of a life of ease and pleasure.
		- We are called to continue witnessing and sharing the Gospel, even in the midst of suffering.
* The example of Job:
	+ He was righteous, yet God allowed him to suffer greatly.
	+ He persevered.
	+ God restored him fully.
	+ *In our suffering God is at work to give us something much better than what we want -* Paul David Tripp.
	+ There is no perseverance without trials, no victory without battles, no peaks without valleys.
* Persevering faith is demonstrated by daily:
	+ Simply speaking the truth.
	+ Let your speech be trustworthy, consistent, reliable, and dependable.
	+ In our Christian community, the family of God, we need to avoid the flippant use of oaths.
		- Practice plain speaking.
		- Let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no.
		- Be people of integrity.
		- Remember that the way we speak reveals our spiritual condition.
* Living for Jesus – Walking the Talk – Persevering in our Faith.
	+ Practice patience in your suffering and simply speak the truth.