

# ENDURANCE

finding hope & strength in life's troubles

## WEEK 3 - BECAUSE WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER OVERVIEW

At the time when Paul wrote his letter to the church in Colossae, he had not yet visited their community. Nevertheless, he had heard about their faith and love and wanted to send some encouragement along with his teaching. Thus, he prays from afar that they would have all the hypomonē they need. In this prayer we see a beautiful reality about the Church's call to endure. We do not do it alone! We can lift up, pray for, and encourage others to endure, even as we endure alongside them.

We all know of (or can imagine) the obstacles and hardships that lie ahead of us this year. But we also know of others in our lives who are facing their own unique challenges right now. What might it look like to focus not just on our own endurance, but to join others in their journey to endure? Who in your life needs prayer for God's strength and power right now? And who needs your encouragement to keep on going? We're in this together.

*We also pray that you will be strengthened with all his glorious power  
so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy.*

**Colossians 1:11**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Dave said, "you can't endure on your own." Give an example of a time in your life when someone was there to help you endure.
2. Read [Romans 5:3-4](#).
  - a. How does God's providence carry us from struggling to endurance to hope? See [Psalm 34:18](#), [Isaiah 43:2](#), [Philippians 4:5-7](#), [Psalm 23:4](#), and [Matthew 11:28-29](#).
  - b. Explain how caring, loving relationships can help us get from struggling to endurance to hope? [Hebrews 10:24-25](#), [1 Thessalonians 5:11](#), [Galatians 6:2](#), [Romans 15:1](#), [John 15:13](#)
3. Do you have a mentor, or are you a mentor? Describe what that relationship has been like for you.
4. Who do you know that could be one of the 36% of Americans experiencing "serious loneliness"?
5. What did Dave mean when he said, "be an accompanist"?
6. How would you go about finding a mentor, becoming a mentor, or, as it says above, "join[ing] others in their journey to endure"?

### Prayer

*Dear Father, thank you for your providence that helps us endure. Thank you for people in our lives who are on the journey with us. Please help us all to have mentors and people in our lives who share our burdens. We love you. In Jesus' name we pray.*

## RESOURCES

*How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen*, by David Brooks