

HOW TO HIT A CURVEBALL

GROUP GUIDE

PATIENCE IS HARD

DISCUSS TOGETHER

- What sport or sporting activity do you feel most confident playing or doing? Can anyone throw or hit a curveball?
- What is the biggest curveball this season has thrown you personally? What are some other curveballs you've had to face in your life?
- Read **James 5:7-11**. Where do you find yourself struggling most with being patient? Is it on the road, in a relationship, in a job, or something else? Has this changed as we've gone through this season of social distancing?
- One way James calls us to be patient is to be long-tempered with other people. What have you learned about being long-tempered with those closest to you during stressful times? What does it take to not blow up at each other?
- Is there a way you feel like you need to be more patient with people in your life right now? Is there anything you need to apologize for or make right?
- Another way we're called to be patient is by persevering in faith during difficult circumstances. Do you know of someone who showed incredible endurance through suffering or a challenging time? What did you learn from them?
- Jeff said, "It is in the difficult times where we grow the most." Have you found that to be true? Did a hard situation in your past actually pull you closer to God? How?
- Read **Galatians 5:22-23**. Pick one of the words that describes the fruit of the Holy Spirit that you most need in your life right now. Why did you pick that word?

NEXT STEPS

When we ask, God promises to empower us with His supernatural presence. Take a moment to offer up your frustrations to Him. Then say, "God, on my own, I am going to lose it. I need Your power and strength to be patient right now." If you want, think of a specific relationship or situation where you most need His strength and ask Him to help you.