

“WHEN THE HEAT’S TURNED UP”

GENUINE FAITH IS RESILIENT IN TRIALS

James 1:1-12

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In today’s message, we learn how to properly respond to the trials of life as Christ-followers.

Many individuals tend to think that the best times in life are the times that are full of happiness and free of stress. But the Bible has a different view. It says that in our trials – in our times of uncertainty and suffering – we should find joy. Why? Because in our trials we build our faith and come to know even more of the goodness and greatness of God.

As he prepares his friends for the inevitable test, James outlines for them and for us five strategies to employ when times of testing invade.

I. CELEBRATE THE _____ BEHIND YOUR TRIALS.

James 1:1-2

II. CALCULATE THE _____ OF YOUR TRIALS.

James 1:3-4

A. Trials produce _____. 3

B. Trials produce _____. 4

III. CALL UPON GOD’S _____ IN YOUR TRIALS.

James 1:5-8

A. God is _____.
James 1:17; Job 12:13; 28:20, 23; Proverbs 2:6; Ephesians 1:17

B. God is _____.

C. God is _____.
Hebrews 11:6

IV. CONSIDER YOUR _____ TO YOUR TRIALS.

James 1:9-11

V. CONTEMPLATE THE _____ OF YOUR TRIALS.

James 1:12

CONCLUSION

Perhaps the only bruise that never heals is the loss of hope – the loss of confidence that adversities are purposeful, not random, meaningless cruelties.

- Jesus said that His followers would face persecution. But Jesus suffered on the cross so that our suffering would not be in vain. Thank Him for the gift to you of His own suffering.
- Read 1 Peter 4:12-16. Take time to pray about those situations in your life where you see God allowing you to suffer for His sake.
- Thank God for the opportunities He gives you to grow. Ask Him to provide you with grace to be His witness during times of hardship.