

“TRUTH FOR TRIALS”*

James 1:2-11

Some statements of Scripture are hard to swallow. James 1:2 qualifies: “Consider it pure joy...when you face trials of many kinds.” But don’t most think “Oh boy” rather than “Oh joy” in the face of trials? We need truth for trials.

I. Welcome trials by remembering their _____.
(1:2-4)

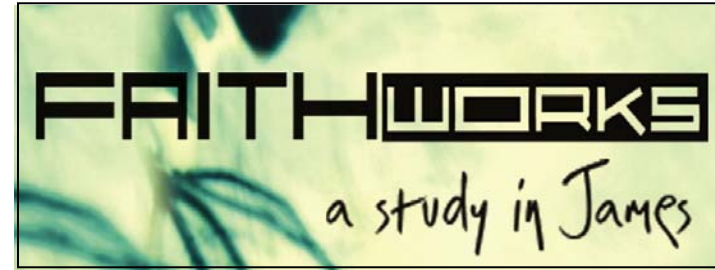
II. Working a trial requires _____.
(1:3-4)

III. Wisdom for trials requires _____.
(1:5-8)

IV. Waiting out a trial requires _____.
(1:9-11)

FAITH WORKS WHEN IN TRIALS WE TRUST.

*2nd message in the series, *James: Faith Works!*, by Danny Box, 4-1-07
This message can be heard at www.hbcpcf.com or as an iTunes podcast.



Use the following questions to reflect on lessons from the Series, *James: Faith Works!* Ponder these during your quiet times, or use them as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends or REALife Group.

1. What was your first reaction to the concept that we should consider it joy when we face trials (James 1:2)? This statement seems counter-intuitive. Does the purpose of maturity help you make sense of it?
2. Why do you think perseverance is needed in trials? Do you ever initially respond well to trials hoping a good response will persuade God to end the trial? Are you ever tempted to resentment during a lengthy trial?
3. How do faith and prayer combine to give us wisdom for decision making as we go through trials? Can you think of an example of how God gave you wisdom for a trial? Did you obey Him?
4. Some trials are long-term. How does a temporal or eternal perspective impact us when we're facing life-long trials? Consider Hebrews 12:3.
5. What would it look like if someone did not work their faith in face of a trial? Are you facing a trial? Are you working your faith?



FAITHWORKS

a study in James

TRUTH FOR TRIALS

James 1:2-11

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I. Welcome trials by remembering their PURPOSE.

- A. Because of the Opportunity They Present
- B. Because of the Maturity They Produce

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James 1:2-4

WHAT TRIALS CAN PRODUCE IN US

- Deeper Dependence on God
- Increased Intimacy with God
- Richer Reflection of God

“Too often we try to use God to change our circumstances, while He is using our circumstances to change us.”

-Dr. David Osborn

II. Working a trial requires PERSEVERANCE.

- A. Definition: To Remain Under
- B. Development: Endurance Builds With Experience

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James 1:3-4

DESCRIPTION OF PERSEVERANCE

- Belief versus Bitterness
- Relying versus Relieving
- Drawing Near versus Dropping Out
- Connection versus Isolation
- Responsive versus Passive

III. Wisdom for trials requires PRAYER.

- A. Wisdom is Generously Provided
- B. Wisdom Must be Genuinely Pursued

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James 1:5-8

IV. Waiting out a trial requires PERSPECTIVE.

A. Reversed Values

B. Remaining Values

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James 1:9-11

*Faith Works When
In Trials We Trust.*

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