

The Postive Potential of Trials – James 1:1-4

My Story

1. What was the hardest test you remember taking (i.e., school, DMV, trade, licensing, etc.)?

Digging Deeper

2. Why did James use the word “when” instead of “if” in verse 2?
How do John 16:33 & 2 Tim. 3:12 shed light on this?
3. Is it sin to feel sorrow and grief in a trial? If not, how do these feelings fit in with God’s call for joy (v.2)?

4. Compare James 1:1-4 with Rom. 5:1-5 and 1 Pet. 1:3-9. What things does God want us to know and do in the midst of trials?

Reflection

5. Have the trials that you have experienced brought you closer to, or pushed you further away from God? How have trials affected your faith?
6. Some people believe that if a person is suffering it must be the result of sin in their life. Is that true? Why/why not?

SERMON NOTES

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Taking the Next Step

We all go through various trials. Are you aware of the trial someone else is going through right now? Plan a way you might be able to encourage or bless them this week. (take them out for coffee, write a note of encouragement, call them, etc.)

Praises / Prayer Requests

