

11/02

HOME GROUP GUIDE

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

LISTEN

Listen to the sermon and read through the main passages(s)



REFLECT

Prayerfully answer the questions below



DISCUSS

Meet with your group to discuss



RESPOND

Apply the truth of God's word to your life

BACKGROUND:

James was Jesus's half-brother. Although he initially doubted Jesus as the Messiah, his encounter with the risen Jesus transformed his faith (John 7:5; 1 Corinthians 15:7). Later, James became a prominent leader in the church, writing this letter to encourage Christians to persevere and live lives that reflect the faith they profess

Here, James presents trials as purposeful tools in God's hand to mature believers. He encourages believers to seek wisdom from God, reminding us that prosperity cannot deliver us; only Christ can. The reality is that God is more comfortable with our suffering than we would like to believe. True faith trusts God during trials and develops into perseverance.

OPEN:

1. Share a tough experience that ultimately proved to be a blessing in disguise.

REFLECT:

2. Read James 1:1-8. Why does James encourage his readers to celebrate trials? How does his perspective differ from the common view of suffering?

3. Why is wisdom necessary when facing suffering? What does this passage emphasize about God that encourages us to ask for wisdom with expectation?

4. Read James 1:9-18. What's the difference between testing and tempting? How do challenging circumstances and prosperity each test faith differently?

APPLY:

5. What are some of the tests and trials many people encounter today? How can a proper view of God help us when facing these challenges?

6. How does our response to trials affect our character? When have you seen God use a challenging situation to strengthen your faith?

7. What is one area of your life that you find it hard to trust God with? As you consider this passage, what steps would you like to take to grow in the character and faith that come from knowing God?

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