

WARM-UP QUESTION

What is a minor struggle that tests your sanctification daily?

DISCUSS

When challenges and trials come, what does it mean to move from asking "why" to asking "what"? How might that transition reframe your perspective, and why is it healthy and spiritually necessary to do so? What can you do in practical terms to retrain yourself to begin responding with "what" instead of "why"?

Read James 1:2-4 (NLT).

- How do you typically respond to trials and challenges? Can you think of a time when a difficult situation helped you grow in faith or character?
- What is the benefit of having trials? How can you begin to see challenges as opportunities?
- What does James mean by "you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing"?

Read Hebrews 12:2 (NLT).

- What does it look like in your daily life to "look to Jesus"?
- What does "disregarding its shame" mean in the context of crucifixion and public humiliation? How does his example challenge your perspective toward your own struggles or suffering?
- Is there a specific burden or trial you need to endure with a renewed mindset? How can
 we help each other keep our focus on Jesus in a world full of distractions and
 discouragement?

Read James 5:7-8, 10-11 (NLT).

- How does the example of a farmer illustrate spiritual patience? What does spiritual patience look like in your life?
- How does the mention of God's compassion and mercy connect to the idea of enduring suffering?
- Do you struggle to be patient during times of waiting or suffering? Why or why not?
- What does a spiritually patient life look like in a culture that values instant results?

Read John 8:32 (NLT).

- Can you think of a time when God's truth brought freedom to your life—freedom from fear, sin, guilt, etc.?
- Are there any lies (about God, yourself, or others) you need to replace with truth? What truth from Scripture do you need to cling to in your current season of life?
- Why do people often resist the truth, even if it leads to freedom? How can you recognize and overcome this resistance when it is in you?