

A Faith that is TESTED

Part 1
James 1:1-18

1. God, when I encounter trials, help me to **RESPOND** instead of **REACT**. (v.2; Proverbs 16:32, 18:13; John 16:33; Romans 8:28; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 5:18b; Philippians 4:8,13; Hebrews 12:2; 1 Peter 4:12-13)
2. It is easy to view a trial as a huge **BUMMER**, but God intends it to be a **BUILDER**. (vv.3-4; Genesis 50:20; Job 23:10; Romans 5:3-5, 12:12; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 2:10; 1 Peter 1:6-7, 5:10)
3. When walking through a trial, I don't need good **FEELINGS** to counteract bad ones; I need **WISDOM** and **DIRECTION** so I can move forward. (vv.5-6; Psalm 121:1-2, 119:30,69; Proverbs 2:6, 3:5-6, 16:16; Jeremiah 29:13; Matthew 7:24, 21:21-22; Philippians 1:9-10)
4. God, help me to wholly and single-mindedly **TRUST** in You and **STAND FIRMLY** upon You and Your word. (vv.6-8; Exodus 32:1-6; Deuteronomy 6:5; 1 Kings 18:21; Psalm 19:7; Matthew 6:24, 14:28-33; Mark 9:23-24; Romans 4:20; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16)



Sunday, July 26, 2026

Taking it further to help you THRIVE...

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place. We don't want to just say "See *you next week*" as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect!

For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit thrivekg.org/thrive-groups.

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, confused, or edified you?
2. In the context of Sunday's message, 'reacting' in times of trial can be easy while 'responding' can be a challenge. What is the difference between reacting and responding? What causes us to react? What is required to create a lifestyle of proper responding?
3. In verse 2, James says that we are to "count it all joy" when we face trials. What does this mean? What does this not mean?
4. Discuss a trial you have endured (or perhaps are currently enduring) that caused (is causing) you to grow stronger and more steadfast (have staying power). Has your perspective of this trial changed as you have been walking through it? If so, how?
5. Discuss your thoughts on this quote from Warren Wiersbe: "A faith that can't be tested can't be trusted."
6. Where do people turn to for wisdom today? Why does it seem (to some) easier to turn to self-help programs (and other avenues) than to turn to God? What is the danger of intermixing worldly wisdom with Godly wisdom?
7. Is it necessarily sinful when we have doubts? What are we to do with our doubts and questions?