



LEADER'S NOTES

Week 5: Perseverance

QUESTION 1

The first question asks your group to discuss the scripture that we are studying. This week I gave it to you in the new living translation just to switch things up. Enjoy this question. If anyone seems disturbed that you are discussing the same scripture you discussed last week, you can explain the power of reading scripture more than one time.

QUESTION 2

Question two works to define the Greek word translated as perseverance. This question also calls your group to tell some stories. You might consider going first and setting a good example.

QUESTION 3

Question three asks specifically how we develop perseverance. Unfortunately, it comes through suffering. The question asks you to outline how we develop perseverance and what perseverance produces in our lives. You may want to stress to your group that to develop perseverance you need to keep going when times are tough. That is a real key, to suffer and continue. This will eventually develop your character and bring hope.

QUESTION 4

Question four reveals the role that perseverance plays in growth and maturity. The focus is **James 1:2-4**. This may help.

Key Points of **James 1:2-4**

- Choosing Joy in Trials (v. 2): Instead of viewing challenges as obstacles, they should be treated as opportunities for growth. **"Count it all joy"** means consciously choosing to rejoice, not because the trial is pleasant, but because of what it produces.
- The Purpose of Testing (v. 3): Trials act as a refining fire that proves and improves the quality of faith. This "testing" reveals whether a person is relying on God, helping to remove spiritual impurities.
- Developing Perseverance/Steadfastness (v. 3): Trials are designed to produce steadfastness (or perseverance), which is the ability to endure, remain faithful, and not give up when facing pressure.
- Achieving Spiritual Maturity (v. 4): Allowing perseverance to **"finish its work"** leads to being **"perfect and complete,"** meaning a mature, fully developed character rather than sinless perfection.
- Suffering with Purpose: These verses imply that trials have a redemptive purpose, helping believers become better equipped and more spiritually robust.

QUESTION 5

Question five focuses on **Hebrews 10:36**. Discuss a few more things about perseverance and add some urgency. Enjoy this last question.