

WELLSPRING

W O R S H I P C E N T E R

Sermon Questions James Chapter 1 2/12/2023

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, Because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

1. What did you think of the point that the oldest book in the both the Old and New Testament both deal with the issue of persevering through trials?
2. Several New Testament verses imply that Jesus had brothers and sisters. Why do you think some Christian traditions teach that Mary remained a perpetual virgin?
3. James was changed when he encountered the resurrected Christ. Have you have had a “God encounter” that changed your life? How did that encounter change your perspective about God.?
4. 1 Corinthians 15 tells us that after the resurrection, Jesus “appeared to the Twelve...and then to all the apostles.” Have you come from a Christian tradition that believes the gift and calling of an apostle is still active today?
5. What did you think of these questions:
What if it is impossible to grow in faith without a trial?
What if to God, problems are the exciting things in life?
What if part of the miracle is you thinking about the problem differently?
What if behind every trial is an increase that produces something in you?
6. When you have gone through challenging times in life, have you been tempted to withdraw from church attendance and activities?
7. Was the analogy of a sculptor using a mallet and chisel helpful in understand how God can painfully chip away at things that do not belong in our lives?
8. James 1:2-4 tells us that the trials and tests in our lives are meant for what purposes? Because of this, James admonishes us to have what attitude and response to the testings? Is that response your typical default response? Why or why not? How can we make it our response?