

James Session 1 / THE TESTING OF FAITH / James 1:1-11

INTRODUCTION

JOY IN TRIALS (1:1-4)

- How does remembering that we are aliens and strangers in this world set us up to receive James's exhortation to "count it all joy" when we meet trials?
- What are some of the effects of our remaining steadfast under the weight of trials?

WISDOM FROM GOD IN TRIALS (1:5-8)

- Read or glance through Proverbs 2:1-15. What is wisdom? Where does it come from? What are the benefits of having wisdom?
- What are some strategies we can use to fight doubt? How would you advise a man trying to resist becoming "a double-minded person, unstable in all his ways?"

DON'T TRUST IN YOURSELF, NO MATTER YOUR STATION IN LIFE (1:9-11)

- What is the Bible's general opinion of wealth? What temptations come with wealth? What temptations come with poverty?
- How does wealth tend to lead to self-reliance? Why does poverty not always lead to reliance on God? Besides wealth, what other things are men tempted to rely on and boast in for a sense of well-being and security?

IMPLICATIONS

1. Pursue Unwavering Faith
2. Boast in Christ
3. Don't Waste Your Trials
4. Develop Wisdom From God

- Discuss any other thoughts or insights you have from this lesson.