

James Session 2 / THE PROCESS OF TEMPTATION / James 1:12-18

INTRODUCTION

The Reward for Those Who Endure (1:12)

- How should the promise of reward for endurance motivate us in our walk with Christ?

The Process of Temptation (1:13-15)

- What are some passages of Scripture which show us that God ordains that we face trials? What are some lessons for us to learn from this reality?
- Can you think of an example, in your own life or from others, of how the lure of sin drags people away? How have you seen this play out?
- In the metaphor of childbirth in verse 15, what does it mean that our desires “conceive” our sin? Thinking practically, what has happened? What should we do to prevent it? What are some practical ideas you would give a man who wanted advice in resisting temptation?

God’s Goodness and Faithfulness (1:16-18)

- In this context, why would James want us to think about God’s goodness and faithfulness? How are we in danger of deceiving ourselves regarding our trials and the temptations that come with them?

- Do you struggle with the truth that God is sovereign in salvation? How does being helpless to save ourselves go against our natural tendencies as men?
- If we are brought forth “by the word of truth,” what are the implications regarding evangelism? Is there any way for a person to be saved apart from the gospel?
- Read Romans 8:32 where Paul makes a similar argument to James. What is the connection between God’s goodness, our salvation, and the trials and temptations we face? Why does James connect all these together? What are some things we are to learn and apply from this section of Scripture?

IMPLICATIONS

1. God is your good and loving Creator.

2. God is holy.

3. God tests but he does not tempt.

- Discuss any other thoughts or insights you have from this lesson.
- Take time to reflect on the implications of James 1:12-18 for your own life today.