

Life Verses

James 1:1-5

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings. Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

MAIN IDEAS

1. Key Words
 - a. Consider
 - b. Pure
 - c. Whenever
2. The Main Point
3. The Goal
4. The Gift

What do positive and negative attitudes do, according to Proverbs 17:22?

What reason does James give to be joyful when facing trials?

Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. What was Paul's attitude toward trials and why?

Here is a partial list of promises we can cling to when suffering. Summarize them:

Isaiah 41:10

John 16:33

Romans 8:18

Romans 8:28

1 Corinthians 10:13

1 Peter 5:10

Revelation 2:10-11

PERSONAL RESPONSE

What is your attitude when you face trials? How does it compare with Job's? (Job 1:20-22)

If given the choice between maturing under trials or remaining immature while free of trials, which would you choose?

Prepare for the next time you face trouble:

- Decide now what your attitude will be.
- Memorize three promises that would encourage you while suffering.
- List seven brothers or sisters in Christ you can go to for encouragement. If you can't think of seven, seek ways to get more involved in church community.
- Pray that God would grant you a yearning for maturity that far outweighs your desire to avoid suffering.

REPRODUCE

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-5. Consider a tough time you've lived through. How can you draw on this experience to bring comfort to someone else?

Pray God's promises over a suffering friend or family member. Consider how else you can comfort him or her.

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- James 1:1-5
- John 16:33
- Philippians 2:14-15
- 1 Peter 1:6-7
- Hebrews 5:11-6:1
- 1 Corinthians 13:11
- Ephesians 4:14-15
- James 1:22

Additional verses from the study:

- Proverbs 17:22
- 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
- Isaiah 41:10
- Romans 8:18
- Romans 8:28
- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- 1 Peter 5:10
- Revelation 2:10-11
- Job 1:20-22
- 2 Corinthians 1:3-5