

Sermon Series: James
"Overcoming Hard Times"

Mar 14, 2024 - Pastor Chuck Booher

What to do when we are surrounded by trials:

1. Consider your Trials a Joy (James 1:2)
2. Know That Trials Produce Resilience (James 1:3-4)
3. Ask God for Wisdom (James 1:5-8)
4. Don't Lean on Materialism (James 1:9-11)
5. See the Big Picture (James 1:12)

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. What forms of encouragement do you appreciate most when others support you in overcoming challenges?
2. Can you share something that consistently brings you joy regardless of the circumstance?

SERMON NOTES REVIEW *(This section never changes)*

Looking back at your sermon notes from this weekend's teaching, was there anything said that caught your attention, challenged you or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What do you think James means when he refers to himself as a "servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ" in verse 1?
2. In verse 3, James suggests that trials produce perseverance. How do you understand the relationship between trials and perseverance?
3. Can you identify any examples from your own life where you have persevered under trial and received blessings as a result?

TAKING IT HOME

James emphasizes the importance of perseverance and faith in the face of trials and challenges. Knowing that all believers will face trials, James encourages us to embrace trials with joy, recognizing that they lead to spiritual maturity. During difficult times, it's crucial to seek wisdom from God to navigate through obstacles effectively and remain steadfast in faith. James highlights the promise of a crown of life for those who endure trials with steadfastness and remain faithful until the end.

PRAYER TIME

"Heavenly Father, in the midst of trials and tribulations, I turn to you for strength and guidance. Grant me the wisdom to understand your purpose in these challenges and the resilience to endure them with faith and courage. Help me to trust in your plan, knowing that you are with me every step of the way. Give me the grace to find peace amidst the storm and the assurance of your love that sustains me. Amen."

ACTION STEPS

This week, take intentional steps to devise a strategy on how you can rejoice when facing the next trial. Whether it be singing a song of praise, thanking God for His promise to always be with you, or any other method that will maintain your focus on Him.