

Dealing with Trials & Temptations

James 1:1-8 / Sunday, October 7, 2018

- 1.) Christ's resurrection was and is the central theme and _____ of the Christian faith.
- 2.) " _____ " is the running theme of James' letter. But James describes a faith that goes beyond "saving faith". He lays out for us in this letter what a true Christian's " _____ " should look like.
- 3.) Every trial and temptation is testing your _____. And what is this testing of your faith producing? " _____ " = hoop-om-on-ay'; cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy: enduring, patience, patient continuance. "Patience" does not describe a passive waiting but an *active endurance*. It isn't so much the quality that helps you sit quietly in the doctor's waiting room, as it is the quality that helps you _____ a _____.
- 4.) Yet, trials can prove a wonderful work of God in us. "I have looked back to times of trial with a kind of longing, not to have them return, but to feel the strength of God as I have felt it then, to feel the power of _____, as I have felt it then, to hang upon God's powerful arm as I hung upon it then, and to see _____ at _____ as I saw him then." (Spurgeon)

Notes: _____

Growth Group Discussion Questions

(Complete at home on separate sheet of paper if needed)

- 1.) When you think of the word "trials" what comes to your mind? What are the challenges in your life that you consider a "trial"?
- 2.) How might our trials today differ from the Christian's trials in James' day?
- 3.) Read today's text (James 1:1-8) What is the theme of this text? What is the main point? What do you consider the key verse? Why?
- 4.) How do the following scriptures apply to the lessons found in James 1:1-8? 1Peter 2:19-21 & 5:8-10; Romans 5:3-5 & 8:28.
- 5.) How do you think the Lord is telling you to change or adjust your attitude after studying this text? What specific instructions does James give us in this text that you could apply to your life?
- 6.) Is there anything in today's text that troubles or confuses you? Discuss.