

Joy in the Midst of Trials – James 1:2-4

Discussion Questions

- 1) What is a trial?
- 2) What approach do you tend to take when you face trials in your life?
- 3) Read John 16:33, Psalm 34:19, and Psalm 46:1. What do we learn about trials and God through these verses?
- 4) Our text tells us that the testing of our faith produces perseverance. What does perseverance mean? If possible, research some other translations of James 1:2-4 and find out how other Bible translations translate the word 'perseverance'. Can you think of some real world examples when you might need perseverance? How about in your spiritual life?
- 5) Read Hebrews 12:1-2. One reason why we might need perseverance is that the Bible likens our lives to running a race, and without perseverance it can be tempting to give up or look for an easy, possibly sinful, way out when things get hard. Do you ever think of your Christian life as like running a race?
- 6) Read 2 Thessalonians 3:5. Think of some examples from Jesus' life when he faced trials and times when he needed perseverance.
- 7) Are you going through a season of trials or suffering in your life at the moment? If so, might you be willing to share this with your fellow Christian brothers and sisters? Share how others might pray for you. If you have gone through a time of trials at some point in your life, share what you learnt from that time and how it impacted your faith.