



Sermon Discussion Guide

May 4, 2025 | James 1:12-18 | Hector

SUMMARY

Big Idea: God is Working to Produce Steadfast Faith in You, Even in Your Trials

James began this letter (1:1-11) by informing us that God will orchestrate trials in the lives of his people in order to test our faith, so that we will increasingly grow in steadfastness. Central to navigating these trials, in the manner that brings glory to the Lord is wisdom. Coming to our verses, 12-18, James supplies us with such wisdom by providing three key truths to equip us to endure in faith: The goal of eternal life to hope for (v12), God's unchanging and benevolent character to trust (v13-17), and remembering how the cross has brought about our new identity (v19.) Walking in the good of these truths by faith, will produce steadfastness, and ensure the crown-of-life reception in the end.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Intro

1. In what situations do you find yourself complaining or grumbling?
 - a. How do these situations, and your response to them, relate to what we may think of as "trials"?

READ James 1:12-18

2. **1:12.** How can hoping in God's promises help give you a better perspective on your trials?
3. **1:13-17.** As you think about past or current trials, are you able to discern between God's work and sinful temptations? What do the verses say regarding the difference? Why is this perspective needed?
 - a. How does knowing and trusting in God's unchanging character help us endure trials?
 - b. Can you recall a time when you realized you had forgotten or doubted His character? How did God remind you and what difference did this make?
4. **1:18.** What truths does this verse teach us to encourage our steadfastness?
 - a. By whose will were we "brought forth" (i.e. born again, redeemed) - Our own 'free will', or God's sovereign free will?
 - b. What difference does that truth make when you are trying to navigate trials in faith by trusting in His character?
5. How can you use these 3 main points to fuel your love and ministry to others this week at work, in your parenting, with your neighbors, etc..? 1) Hope in His Promises, 2) Trust His Character, 3) Remember the Cross.