



Sunday, September 26, 2021

James: A Practical Faith that Works

“Finding a Trail of Hope through our Trials”

Text: James 1:1-4

Pastor Perry Kallis

Big Idea: Finding a trail of hope in our trials requires a conviction that God is up to something good for us, in spite of our pain.

Basic truths about trials on the trail of our lives;

1) Trials on our trail are **inevitable**.

(James 1:2a / Acts 5:41 / Acts 16:25)

2) Trials on our trail are **variable**.

(James 1:2b)

3) Trials on our trail are **beneficial**.

(James 1:3 – 1 Peter 1:6-7 / James 1:4)

Trials are beneficial because they prove my **faith**.

Trials are beneficial because they build **steadfastness**.

Trials are beneficial because they lead to **maturity**.

The practical definition of Biblical steadfastness is: *holding your ground with **purpose**.*

Study/Application Questions and Actions:

1) When you think of “trials,” what variety and kinds come to your mind first? Which “kinds” of trials most mess with your spiritual walk?

2) Based on this passages, how would you simply define “*God’s purpose for our trials?*”

3) Describe some recent trials that God used to build maturity into your life. How did that process unfold for you?

4) Specifically, how can trials produce a steadfast faith and maturity in our lives?

5) Read the following passage Matthew 5:10, Acts 5:41 and 1 Peter 1:6-7. In what ways do these verses match the theme of our passage in James?

6) Why do you think James uses the word “joy” as a response to trials?