

Small Group Homework – 4/7/2019

James, Lesson #1

The Pressure of Trials

James 1:1 - 4

OPEN

Let's each share one time of intense physical pain.

BACKGROUND OF JAMES

1. Who was James?
2. James grew up with Jesus. When did he become a Christian?
3. What was James' role in the early church?

DIG

1. How did James describe himself in verse 1?
2. Is it a servant or slave of Christ? What difference does it make?
3. Who was this letter written to?
4. James 1.1 – 4. What did James teach us we can expect in following Christ?
5. James says, "many kinds of trials." What are some examples of trials we experience?

6. What are some trials you personally have experienced?

7. What are we to do when trials come?

8. How can we rejoice when trials come?

9. What do we learn about the goal of Christian living from this passage? What does this verse teach us about what a mature Christian looks like?

10. Imagine you were doing a talk based on this passage. What are some practical steps you would suggest to becoming one who rejoiced when it was challenge to rejoice?

11. What benefits come to the person who learns to live out James 1:1 – 4?

12. What price does the person pay who cannot rejoice on bad days?

13. Does it matter how we feel—or just what we do?

14. Romans 5.3 – 4. What other benefits come to the person who experiences trials?

15. Think of our pain from the Father's perspective. How do you think God feels when we suffer?

16. Summary. What are the practical benefits of pain? What good comes from suffering?

17. What do you want to recall from today's conversation?

18. How can we support one another in prayer this week?