

Series: FaithWorks  
Sermon: Trials and Temptations  
June 5, 2016

1. When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?
2. Do you have a bucket list? Share something you dream of doing it as an adult.
3. What is something that you hope that you do not have to experience in life?
4. If a friend would ask you, "How does your faith work when life gets messy?" How would you respond to that question?
5. Read James 1:2-13.
  - A. Why do you think James starts his book this way?
  - B. If you were going to write a letter to someone about Jesus, what would be the first thing you would write about in your letter?
  - C. What stands out to you about these verses?
6. When people find themselves in difficult circumstances, what are some of the thoughts that go through their head?
7. What is the first thing you think of when you know trouble is headed your way? What does James say that should be our primary thought when trouble comes our way? (James 1:2-4)
8. When you are going through a trial...
  - A. When do you find yourself leaning into God?
  - B. When do you find yourself leaning away from God?
9. Read James 1:3-4. What is James saying to you in these verses?

10. In light of all you have discussed about troubles and trials, what do you think James means in verse 2 when he says, “Dear brothers and sisters, when trouble of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.”

- A. Why is trouble an “opportunity” for great joy?
- B. How do you think James would define “joy”?

11. As a group, pray about the following...

A. See if anyone is going through a “trial” in the group. Have the person share about the difficult time if they are willing. Have an individual or several group members pray for the person who shared.

B. Pray for joy and wisdom. Have each member pray silently for themselves and the person on their right.