



# A Study of James

**Week Tw② 9/14 – 9/20: James 1:2-18**

## **Faith Test: Steadfast Under Trial**



### **EQUIP:**

- **Sing Together:**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n1bXG4WlesA>  
("Never Once" Matt Redman)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y83-vMeWc9E>  
("You Never Let Go" Matt Redman)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XI-oz8bThlc>  
("Broken Hallelujah" The Afters)

- **Read Together:**

- Read James 1:2-18

- **Reading Questions:**

- Talk about the 8 purposes for which God allows trials to come. With which do you most identify?
  1. To TEST the strength of your faith.
  2. To HUMBLE you.
  3. To WEAN you from worldly dependence.
  4. To CALL you to hope.
  5. To REVEAL what you truly love.
  6. To TEACH you the value of God's blessing.
  7. To DEVELOP you for greater usefulness.
  8. To BE ABLE to help others.

- **Scripture Connections:**

- One commentator translates James 1:2, "...Accept as a gift from God...trials", another commentator translates it this way, "Your heart should dance...at trials".
- Open your gift wrapped box, read each trial and rejoice together.

- **Pray Together:**

Pray together thanking God for past, present and future trials.  
Then pray Romans 5:1-5 together.

- **Homework:**

1. Have you ever encountered a difficult situation where you thought it was impossible for any good to come out of it, only to realize later that it was an important part of your personal growth? If so, explain.
2. Read the following passages: **Jeremiah 32:40-41, John 10:27-30, John 14:15-17, Philippians 1:6**. How can the those verses help you stay "Steadfast Under Trial" realizing God has not forsaken you and is more involved than you realize.
3. When we have remained "Steadfast Under Trial" we might not even see that God had His hand in the situation, and we may even begin to question if doing things God's way is worth it. How can **Hebrews 6:10-12** help us avoid falling in to this kind of thinking?
4. Asking God for wisdom and then applying it during times of trials is foundational to growing as a bondservant of Christ. As you read the following verses: Proverbs 1:7, 11:2, 13:10, 14:8, 19:11 how do we, and what are the benefits of gaining God's wisdom? Choose a Proverbs that would benefit you to read every day for the next week.
5. Is there any situation in your life right now that you need to pray for God's wisdom to help keep you "Steadfast Under Trial", instead of praying for God to simply deliver you from this trial?
6. One way to help you see the good of God's work and "count it pure joy" when life is tough is to be aware of his goodness before you're in the heat of the hardship. Make a list of 5-10 things that you are thankful God has done for you (try to focus more on the non-material). After making the list, circle your top two.