

JAMES: Spiritual Sea Legs

Text: James 1:1-8

Main Point of James:

A true faith is a faith that works practically in our lives.

When we encounter Jesus, it changes everything.

James 1:2

Trials in life are inevitable.

We tend to feel more clearly than we think.

If our faith is to be real it has to show up in our trials.

James 1:3-4

Our faith needs to struggle.

Let God do His work.

James 1:5

God doesn't hesitate to give us wisdom, but we hesitate to ask Him.

James 1:6-8

If you ask God for wisdom, then that's all you need to know.

3 things to make it practical::

Consider your trials as an opportunity to experience the joy of God.

Submit to the One who is at work in you.

Ask and receive the wisdom of God in the trial.

Pastor Brandon Zieske

Food for Thought for the week of June 5, 2016

(Questions and Scriptures for further study and discussion.)

1. Was there anything in particular from the sermon that encouraged you? Motivated you? Challenged you? What was it and why?

Read James 1:1-8

2. What is God's goal for our lives in Christ? Read Romans 8:28-30; 1 Peter 2:4-5

3. Why does God use trials [of all kinds] to produce the results He desires in our lives?

4. James 1:3 "...you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance". How did James' readers know this? How do we know this? Why is this important?

5. Hebrews 5:8 says "Although, He was a son, He learned obedience through the things He suffered." What does this reality in Jesus' life tell us about our suffering?

6. What benefits have you experienced from going through trials? Has it produced steadfastness? Completeness or perfection? Proven character?

7. Why is it important that we don't compare our trials with others' trials?

8. What are the "dos" and "don'ts" of supporting others as they go through trials? After discussing, read and talk about what you learn from 2 Corinthians 1:3-5.

For further study:

The theology of suffering: <http://remnantreport.com/impdf/suffer-01.pdf>

Study 1 Corinthians 12:26 and read this article:

<https://www.monergism.com/union-christ-wayne-grudem>

Study Romans 5:1-5

June 5, 2016



To follow along on your smartphone or device, scan this QR code or visit pwwinona.com/Sunday. This message audio and video will be online Monday afternoon. Go to Resources, Sermons & Discussion Guides, then click on the current sermon series image.

*Visit www.pwwinona.com, for a digital version of these notes and any additional notes if applicable. Go to Resources, Sermons & Discussion Guides, then click on the current sermon series image.