

“Faith That Works”

James 1:1-4

Sunday, July 20, 2025

1. See Trials as Tools (1-2)

- A. (1 Pe 1:6–7) “⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,” NKJV
- B. (2 Co 4:17) “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,” NKJV

2. Stay the Course with Joy (3)

- A. (Ro 5:3–4) “³ And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, character; and character, hope.” NKJV
- B. (Ps 30:5) “...Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.” (Ps 30:5) “...Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.” NKJV
- C. “We often start off so well because of what we hope is in it for us. But it’s when things aren’t happening our way—that’s when our motives are really challenged. That’s when we start to see the quality of our faith and if we’re really going to finish well or not.” Anonymous

3. Submit to the Process (4)

- A. “You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer. You cannot build the poor by destroying the rich. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.” Ronald Reagan
- B. “I suppose that if all the time that I have prayed for Faith was put together, it would be months... I thought someday faith was going to come down and strike me like lightning. But faith did not seem to come. One day I read in the tenth chapter of Romans, ‘Now faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.’ I had closed my Bible and prayed for faith. I now opened my Bible, and began to study, and faith has been growing ever since.” Charles Spurgeon

Write-up:

When life gets hard, does your faith hold up—or fall apart? In this message from James 1:1–4, you'll discover how God uses trials not to break you, but to build you. Learn how to see trials as tools, stay the course with joy, and submit to God’s process for your growth. If you’re facing pressure, pain, or uncertainty, this message will help you develop a **faith that works**—not just in theory, but in real life.

Social Media Invitation:

Life doesn’t always go as planned—but your faith can still grow through it. Join us this Sunday as we look at how God uses trials to shape us, strengthen us, and develop a faith that actually works.