

HOLIDAY PREPPERS:

SEASON'S FEELINGS (James 5:13)

November 23, 2025

THE EMOTIONS OF THE HOLIDAYS:

¹ "James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes of the Dispersion: Greetings..." James 1:1 (BSB)

¹³ "Is any one of you suffering?" James 5:13a (BSB)

- **FOR SOME, THE PRIMARY EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE OF THE HOLIDAYS IS SUFFERING.**

- **PAIN OR GRIEF DUE TO LOSS.**

³³ "When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ 'Where have you put Him?' He asked. 'Come and see, Lord,' they answered. ³⁵ Jesus wept." John 11:33-35 (BSB)

- **SADNESS DUE TO LONELINESS OR ESTRANGEMENT.**

¹⁰ "Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me." Psalms 27:10 (BSB)

¹³ "Is anyone cheerful?"

James 5:13b (BSB)

- **FOR SOME, THE PRIMARY EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE OF THE HOLIDAYS IS JOY.**

- **EXCITEMENT AND POSITIVE EXPECTATION.**

WISE RESPONSES TO HOLIDAY EMOTIONS:

¹³ "Is any one of you suffering? He should pray." James 5:13a (BSB)

- **PRAY FOR WHAT?**

- **RELIEF FROM THE SUFFERING.**

¹ "Hear my prayer, O LORD; let my cry for help come before You. ²Do not hide Your face from me in my day of distress. Incline Your ear to me; answer me quickly when I call." Psalms 102:1-2 (BSB)

- **REPENTANCE FOR WHAT CAUSED THE SUFFERING.**

¹³ "Then David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD.' 'The LORD has taken away your sin,' Nathan replied. 'You will not die. ¹⁴Nevertheless, because by this deed you have shown utter contempt for the word of the LORD, the son born to you will surely die.'" 2 Samuel 12:13-14 (BSB)

²³ "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
Romans 6:23 (BSB)

¹⁹ "Repent, then, and turn back, so that your sins may be wiped away, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord..."
Acts 3:19-20 (BSB)

- **TO LEARN FROM AND ENDURE THE SUFFERING.**

²Consider it pure joy, my brothers, when you encounter trials of many kinds, ³because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴Allow perseverance to finish its work, so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.
James 1:2-4 (BSB)

¹³ "Is anyone cheerful? He should sing praises."
James 5:13b (BSB)

- **PRAISE:**

- **THE OBJECT OF OUR PRAISE: GOD**

¹⁷ "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, with whom there is no change or shifting shadow."
James 1:17 (BSB)

- **DO NOT PRAISE THE GIFT, PRAISE THE GIVER.**

- **THE PURPOSE OF OUR PRAISE: TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE.**

⁴ "Surely God is my helper; the Lord is the sustainer of my soul."
Psalms 54:4 (BSB)

¹ "Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His loving devotion endures forever."
Psalms 136:1 (BSB)

BOTTOM LINE:

WHATEVER THE SEASON BRINGS YOU CAN BRING TO HIM.

NEXT STEPS

- **GNG MEET & GREET**
 - In the conference room after both services TODAY.
- **CHRISTMAS FREE SALE – DECEMBER 6, 2025**
 - We need donations! Drop off new and gently used toys at the Resource Center. If you would rather donate money, we can do the shopping for you.
 - Household item donations welcome.
 - Serving opportunities begin November 30th. Sign up to serve at GNGEvents.com.
- **BAPTISM CELEBRATION – DECEMBER 7, 2025**
 - Sign up for a baptism interview on your connect card or by calling/emailing the church office.
- **CONNECT CARD**
- 1st and 2nd time guests fill out and return to the GET Connected Hub for a free gift!