



# PULPIT CURRICULUM

## Attitude Adjustment

Pastor Derek A. Ward

January 12 – January 18, 2020

### 1. GOING DEEPER

James 1: 2 – 4

1.1) (a) What is the source of joy in the life of the believer (Psalm 16:11; Gal 5:22). (b) Discuss whether there is any significant difference between joy and happiness. (c) In verse 2, James mentions that we will meet trials of various kinds. Discuss some of the ways that trials can arise in our lives (Acts 20:18-19; 2 Chron. 20:9; Psalm 107:17; Psalm 119:67 & 71)?

1.2) (a) What does James say in verse 3 is the reason that God at times allow His children to experience hardship and suffering (see also Malachi 3:3)? (b) List some situations that you think are the most challenging that people may have to go through. (c) Given what has been discussed, what is the appropriate perspective that we should have of difficult circumstances that we may be experiencing?

1.3) (a) How does God expect us to respond to difficult situations (1 Peter 4:12-13; Romans 12:12)? (b) What does James indicate in verse 4 should be the impact on our character after we have gone through suffering? (c) What is God ultimately trying to achieve by allowing us to go through testing?

### 2. ASSESS YOUR LIFE

2.1) How do you assess your attitude in relation to the various kinds of trials that you experience?



I typically fall apart when I go through difficult circumstances.



My faith comes and goes when I am going through difficult circumstances.



I am slowly growing in my faith in God when I am going through difficult circumstances.



My confidence in God is becoming increasingly stronger when I go through difficult circumstances.



My faith is so strong that I am completely unfazed when I experience hardship.

2.2) In what areas of your life do you need an Attitude Adjustment, and how can you affect change?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. APPLICATION

Of the list above, which one(s) will you be intentional about adjusting this week? (Who will hold you accountable)?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Verse of The Week**  
 James 1:2 - 3 (ESV)

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness”

## Sermon Main Points

To have an Attitude Adjustment, you must:

- ⌘ Alter your response to trial;
- ⌘ Be aware of the purpose of trials; and
- ⌘ Submit to the process of perfection.

## Sermon Highlights

- ⌘ We need to have an attitude adjustment toward the negative things we face
- ⌘ When you are tested, it will take an attitude adjustment to recognize that it's your faith that is being tested and not you.
- ⌘ The positive result of being tested should be steadfastness i.e. patience, endurance fortitude or perseverance.
- ⌘ Steadfastness, though an important virtue, leads to something even more important – the perfection and completeness of the individual.

**"Faith that is going to be trusted, is going to be tested". (Leonard Ravenhill)**

## 5 Day Study Plan

**"Study to show yourself approved unto God..."**

**Day 1**

### 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

What I learned (observation / interpretation):

How I will Respond (application):

**Day 2**

### 1 Peter 5:6-10

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

**Day 3**

### Romans 8:35-37

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

**Day 4**

### Matthew 5:11-12

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

**Day 5**

### Job 23: 10

What I learned:

How I will Respond:



### Observation (What does the text say?)

When observing the text, look for

- **Who...** wrote the book ... who is it about ... who did/ said this?
- **What...** is happening?
- **Where...** did this take place?
- **When...** did it happen?
- **Keywords** (significant, repeated, emphasized),
- **Transition words** (because, therefore, so then, but),
- **Commands** (clear action statements).



### Interpretation (What does the text mean?)

When interpreting the text, examine

- **What is the main theme...** what is the meaning of key words)?
- **Read** cross references
- **Compare** translations
- **Summarize** the big idea
- **Use** commentaries (last thing)



### Application (How should this affect Me?)

When applying the text, ask "How should this change the way I think, speak, act? Seek to identify

- **Sins** to confess?
- **Promises** to claim?
- **Examples** to follow?
- **Actions** to obey?
- **Knowledge** to grow in?