

## *Different* Different Faith in Trials

### TALK IT OVER

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

With your Bible, read 1 Peter 1:1-9

*So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. ... 1 Peter 1:6-7 NLT*

#### **How does God use your trials?**

##### **1. Trials reveal your faith.**

*These trials will show that your faith is genuine. ... 1 Peter 1:7 NLT*

*“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.” Luke 22:31-32 NIV*

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:2-4 NIV*

##### **2. Trials draw you closer to God.**

*You love [God] even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:8-9 NLT*

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Let's make sure everyone knows each other. Share your name, how long you've been part of this church, and something “different” about you.
- What really stuck with you from the message?

Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read 1 Peter 1:1. How can you identify as a foreigner, exile, stranger, or sojourner?
- Why do you think God doesn't miraculously keep you from experiencing any trials?

Start Sharing. Choose to create openness.

- Think of a time when a trial revealed your faith. What kind of faith did it reveal: inherited faith, shallow faith, conditional faith, or genuine faith?
- Have you experienced a trial that drew you closer to God? What caused you to move closer to God instead of moving away from Him?
- What trial are you facing right now? How can you begin to trust God with it?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Heavenly Father, thank You for this group of friends. We ask You to grow in us a faith that can be trusted. Draw us closer to You, God. We give You our worries, and we commit to trust in You. Amen.

Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Start each day by committing your worries and disappointments to God in prayer. Tell Him and show Him you trust Him.
- Talk with your family or close friends about what makes you different.

**Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep Talking It Over online.**

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