



MISCONCEPTIONS: DISCERNING COMMONLY ACCEPTED MYTHS

Many catchy phrases and advice shared with us lack a biblical foundation and should be critically evaluated by believers.

WEEK ONE

MISCONCEPTION #1: **GOD WON'T GIVE YOU MORE THAN YOU CAN HANDLE**

OPEN What advice or wisdom did you receive from someone when you were struggling in life? How did it impact you?

READ JOHN 16:33; JAMES 1:2-6; ROMANS 5:3-5

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

JOHN 16:33

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, **3** because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. **4**

Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. **5** If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. **6** But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

JAMES 1:2-6

3 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; **4** perseverance, character; and character, hope. **5** And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

ROMANS 5:3-5

5. What does James 1:2-4 tell us about the purpose of trials in our lives? According to the passage, why is it important to persevere through trials?
6. What are some ways we can rely on God during challenging times?
7. Share an example of how a difficult experience in your life ultimately helped you grow or gain a deeper faith.

REFLECT: James 1 encourages us to "consider it pure joy" when we face trials.

8. What will help you "Consider it pure joy" next time you face a trial? What common attitudes or responses are counterintuitive to this passage?
9. What does allowing "perseverance to finish its work" mean? (James 1:4)?
10. According to Romans 5:3-4, what are some positive outcomes of perseverance?
11. What are some potential benefits of allowing God to work through us during trials instead of trying to escape them alone?
12. How can we practically cultivate a heart of trust and dependence on God when things get out of hand?
13. What message of hope and encouragement can we share as we navigate life's inevitable difficulties?

MEMORIZE

33 I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

JOHN 16:33

PRAY

- Pray for one another.
- Pray for those in your group that are going through a tough season.