

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Date: 1/16/14

Title: *"The Unlikely Route to Joy"*

Text: James 1:2-8

1. Last week we were challenged to improve our time alone with God. How was your personal time with God this week?
2. According to James, what do trials accomplish?
3. Why do you suppose James thinks steadfastness is so valuable?
4. Think of a trial you have faced. How easy was it at the time for you to consider it all joy? How did you feel at the time?
5. As you look back on this trial, can you see ways in which it built steadfastness, faith and maturity in you? If so, please explain.
6. Trials don't produce steadfastness automatically. They can produce bitterness if we so choose. What does James encourage us to do when we face a trial so that the experience will be fruitful (vv. 5-8)?
7. What current trial in your life do you need wisdom for in order to respond well?
8. How can others pray for you this week as you face trials?

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