



TEACHINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

“Count it all joy...”



Brothers and sisters, you will have many kinds of troubles. But when these things happen, should count it all as joy. You know that these things are testing your faith. And this will give you patience.



What does this Scripture mean?

- 1. Because Jesus has not yet returned to take us home, we will have to go through many hard and troubling things in our life.**
- 2. However, while the world tells us that hard and troubling things should make us sad, the bible teaches us that we should be happy!**
- 3. When hard things come, we can know that this is a way our faith is being tested – being made even stronger!**
- 4. When we pass the test and our faith becomes stronger, we receive a bonus – patience, which is faith in Gods timing!**

Remember: Every hardship is an opportunity to grow closer to Jesus!



How To Follow Jesus Well

When we experience something difficult, respond to it like Jesus would, not like the world wants you to.

When we experience something difficult, be happy! You have an opportunity to grow in faith and patience!



CROSS CONNECTION

God does not want us to suffer, but knows that suffering will be a part of our sinful life until Jesus comes back. Luckily, we know that we can trust God when He talks about suffering because He knows our suffering – Jesus suffered exactly as we did, all the way to death on the cross. By this we know that God understands us!

Reflection Questions

1. How should we respond to tough things?

We should be happy!

2. What do tough times do?

They can make our faith stronger!

3. If we are faithful in tough times, what do we get?

Patience!

Challenge Question: How will you suffer well this week?