

**Agape House of Worship  
Midweek Service & Bible Study**

**Study Series: Wisdom for Living – Study of Epistle of James  
Part 2: Growing Through Trials - James 1:2–11**

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024  
Facilitator: Pastor Bimbola Lawore**

| Breakdown of the Study of the Book of James |                 |                                      |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Date  | Passage         | Topic                                |
| 1/31/2024                                   | James           | Part 1: Overview of Epistle of James |
| 2/7/2024                                    | James 1:2–11    | Part 2: Growing Through Trials       |
| 2/14/2024                                   | James 1:12–18   | Part 3: The Process of Temptation    |
| 2/21/2024                                   | James 1:19–25   | Part 4: Hearing and Doing the Word   |
| 2/28/2024                                   | James 2:1–13    | Part 5: The Sin of Partiality        |
| 3/6/2024                                    | James 2:14–26   | Part 6: Faith Without Works Is Dead  |
| 3/13/2024                                   | James 3:1–18    | Part 7: Taming the Tongue            |
| 3/20/2024                                   | James 4:1– 12   | Part 8: The Cause of Quarrels        |
| 3/27/2024                                   | James 4:13– 5:6 | Part 9: Sins of the Wealthy          |
| 4/3/2024                                    | James 5:7– 12   | Part 10: Patience in Suffering       |
| 4/10/2024                                   | James 5:13– 20  | Part 11: The Prayer of Faith         |
| 4/17/2024                                   | James           | Part 12: Summary and Conclusion      |

**James 1:2-11** *“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. 7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do. 9 Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. 10 But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wildflower. 11 For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls, and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business. (NIV)*

**Question 1** – What does James mean when he said “consider it pure joy. My brothers and sisters when you face trial of many kinds.”

**John 16:33** *“I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace. In the world you have tribulation and distress and suffering, but be courageous [be confident, be undaunted, be filled with joy]; I have overcome the world.” [My conquest is accomplished, My victory abiding. (AMP)*

**What Trials does in us:**

1. Trust in God - 2 Corinthians 1:8-9, Romans 5:5
2. Perseverance - Romans 5:3
3. Character (Integrity) - Romans 5:4
4. Maturity – Romans 5:4
5. Humility - 2 Corinthians 12:6-10

**Question 2** - In what ways have your trials and personal experiences shaped you into who you are today?

**James 1:5-8** “5 If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of [b]the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding, and it will be given him.  
6 Only it must be in faith that he asks with no wavering (no hesitating, no doubting). For the one who wavers (hesitates, doubts) is like the billowing surge out at sea that is blown hither and thither and tossed by the wind.  
7 For truly, let not such a person imagine that he will receive anything [he asks for] from the Lord,  
8 [For being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), [he is] unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels, decides].” AMP

**Ingredients to navigate seasons of trials:**

1. Wisdom – 1 Corinthians 1:24, Matthew 7:24=27, James 3:13-18
2. Prayer – Matthew 21:22, Hebrews 4:16, Mark 11:22-24
3. Faith – Matthew 14:28-31

**Question 3** – What other practical ways you have navigated times of trials or persecution.

**Question 4** – What makes us double minded, how can we eliminate double mindedness?

**James 1:9-11** “Let the brother in humble circumstances glory in his high position [as a born-again believer, called to the true riches and to be an heir of God]; 10 and the rich man is to glory in being humbled [by trials revealing human frailty, knowing true riches are found in the grace of God], for like the flower of the grass he will pass away. 11 For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; its flower falls off and [c]its beauty fades away; so too will the rich man, in the midst of his pursuits, fade away.” (AMP)

**Question 5** - Is Apostle James against being rich?

No matter how rich a person is in material goods, he is actually poverty stricken unless he is rich in his relationship with the Lord. No matter how poor a person is in material goods, he is wealthy if he knows the Lord and is an heir of God. Circumstances can change quickly in our lives, just as a flower may bloom and then in a few days be withered. This should not frighten us because as long as we have Jesus, we have the most important thing we can ever have.

**Conclusion:**

As followers of Christ Jesus, we will face hardship, persecutions, trials but we must be able to deal with the same things that others deal with, and yet have a totally different response than they do. Like diamonds that are formed under great pressure, trials present unique circumstances that can eventually bring out the best in us!