

Welcome to Bible Study 19 February 2023

TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS

Opening Prayer (pray together)

O Lord, we gather here today with open hands and an open heart, ready to depend on you to help us through the day, and all it will bring. Help me come to you for guidance, strength, provision, and protection.

As we face tough choices and hard situations, help me remember that I believe I am a representative to the world from you, guide me and use me O God.

Help me live today in a way that brings honour to Your holy name. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Q 1 Trials – Exams – Tests – Assessments. How did you fare at school during your exams and tests, did you relish the chance to prove yourself to be smarter than the rest?

Music Worship

Great is my faithfulness

A generous heart

Word: Psalm 119:9-16

⁹ How can a young person stay on the path of purity?

By living according to your word.

¹⁰ I seek you with all my heart;

do not let me stray from your commands.

¹¹ I have hidden your word in my heart

that I might not sin against you.

¹² Praise be to you, LORD;

teach me your decrees.

¹³ With my lips I recount

all the laws that come from your mouth.

¹⁴ I rejoice in following your statutes

as one rejoices in great riches.

¹⁵ I meditate on your precepts

and consider your ways.

¹⁶ I delight in your decrees;

I will not neglect your word.

Word: James 1:2-8;

Trials and Temptations

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.

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.

**Q 2 How do you normally feel and respond when you have to face a trial of patience?
Are you good at waiting?**

Q 3 In the middle of discussing trials, James mentions wisdom (verse 5).

a What does wisdom have to do with facing trials?

b Why should we pray for wisdom, not just perseverance?

c What must we believe when we ask for wisdom?

Q 4 Some people say that you have to get angry to pass very hard times, is being angry a justification to surge forward at all costs to increase our faith?

Works

The Good News of the faith of Jesus Christ is there for us to use to “pass the tests” that come our way. We, as a loving congregation, can look to those persons in troubled times, offering our love to help and to guide.

Ending Prayer (pray together)

Lord God, we pray for your loving and caring guidance to show us the path of righteousness. May our prayer for guidance calm our anxieties and strengthen our faith.

Please God, let it be that we can understand your wisdom to make us better people for helping others in need.

Let the Holy Spirit guide us in the way of truth and glory of God, Amen.