

Choose to Be Different During Difficulties

Faith lives by determining to manifest joy when life gets hard **James 1:2-4** Chris Mueller 9-12-21

Introduction:

James 1:2-4 *Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

#1 **C** _____ to react differently to difficulties

2 *Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,*

James Boice Joy is based upon the knowledge of who God is and what He has done for us in Christ. 'Happiness' is dependent upon circumstances—while joy is not.

MacArthur Joy is a deep, abiding inner thankfulness to God for his goodness that is not diminished or interrupted when *less-than-desirable circumstances* intrude on one's life.

Psalm 22:11 *Be not far from me, for trouble is near.*

1 Corinthians 7:28 *In this life, you will have trouble.*

Romans 8:28 *We know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

Matthew 13:20-21 *"The one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away."*

#2 **C** _____ the reasons for reacting differently to difficulties

3 *knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance*

John MacArthur Endurance is a permanent inner quality of strength which increases each time a trial is patiently and trustingly endured.

#3 Have **C** _____ mature from reacting differently to difficulties

4 *And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

1st is perfecting you

Philippis 'Perfect' carries the idea of being fully developed, of being fully instructed and fully ready for the task God designed you for.

Galatians 4:19 My children, with whom I am again in labor until Christ is formed in you.

2nd is completing you

3rd is to be lacking in nothing

1 Peter 5:10 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

Philippians 1:6b He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

TAKE HOME

A - Choosing joy in difficulties is a _____ exhortation

B - Choosing joy in difficulties impacts _____ for Christ

C - Choosing joy in difficulties requires the _____ of the Spirit

Ephesians 5:18 Be filled with the Spirit.

D - Choosing joy in difficulties demonstrates _____

E - Choosing joy in difficulties proves your faith is _____

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. What is the benefit to the heart of a Christian who chooses to manifest joy in their difficulties?
2. In what way is the Church blessed by a believer who chooses to live by joy in their trials?
3. How can God use joy in trials to impact those who are without Christ?
4. How should Christians help each other with their trials – what would be some good steps to follow?
5. What truths about God's character are very important to know when going through trials? Find a passage that describes each one of those divine character traits so that you may use them to help your own heart and others in trial.
6. In which areas of life (driving, work, marriage, parenting) are you responding wrongly to trials, and what steps will you take this week in order to respond in Spirit filled joy?
7. Why do you think James talks about wisdom in verses 5-8 following his discussion on trials?

2	Πᾶσαν χαρὰν ἠγήσασθε , ἀδελφοί μου , ὅταν πειρασμοὶς περιπέσητε ποικίλοις , πᾶς χαρά ἠγέομαι ἀδελφός ἐγώ ὅταν πειρασμός περιπίπτω ποικίλος All joy consider brothers of me when in pressures you might fall around various JFSAX NFSAX V2PAMM SN NMPV OP1 SG SN CST NMPD V2PAAS JMPDX SN
3	γινώσκοντες ὅτι τὸ δοκίμιον ὑμῶν τῆς πίστεως κατεργάζεται ὑπομονήν . γινώσκω ὅτι ὁ δοκίμιον ὑμεῖς ὁ πίστις κατεργάζομαι ὑπομονή knowing that the proof of you of the trust works thoroughly patience VPAPMPN CSN ANSN NNSN OP2 PG AFSG NFSG V3SPMI NFSAX SJ
4	ἡ δὲ ὑπομονὴ ἔργον τέλειον ἐχέτω , ἵνα ἦτε τέλειοι καὶ ὀλόκληροι ἐν μηδενὶ λειπόμενοι . ὁ δὲ ὑπομονή ἔργον τέλειος ἔχω ἵνα εἰμί τέλειος καὶ ὀλόκληρος ἐν μηδεὶς λείπω The but patience work complete let have that you might be complete and wholly called in nothing being left AFSN CCV NFSN NNSA JNSAX V3SPAM SN CSF V2PPAS JMPNX CCK JMPNX PD JNSDX VPPMPN SJ

