

FAITH IS FORGED THROUGH ADVERSITY

BIG TRUTH: FAITH IS FORGED THROUGH ADVERSITY

Ecclesiastes 7:14; Isaiah 30:20; 1 Peter 1:6-7; Job 36:15

BIBLE VERSE: JAMES 1:2-4

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

BIG IDEAS

- The foundation of our faith is Jesus, and we are His servants.
- Faith grows when pressure pushes us to turn from doubt, temptation, and sin to trust in God.
- We can have joy in trials because God is good, sovereign, and unchanging.

BIBLE PASSAGE: JAMES 1:1-18

TRANSFORM: LIVING FOR JESUS

In High School, the Transform Year is an exploration of what it looks like to have transformed influence as we seek to live for a Kingdom that is greater than our own. First, we recognize that we will never be transformed if we are not Living for Jesus. To do this, we must first know who Jesus is by looking at who He says He is (John 8:58), and then look at what the Bible says about how in Him, we live by faith (James 1:6). Next, we recognize that to have transformed influence means that we must live as disciples in pursuit of Christ and His Kingdom over ourselves and our own kingdoms.

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know...

- God is a God of compassion and mercy.
- We are prone to self-deception.
- If our faith does not have works, it is dead.



Every student should feel...

- Joy, even in trials, because of God's goodness.
- Thankful for every good and perfect gift from the Father.
- Responsible to use their influence for Jesus alone.



Every student should strive to...

- Read the entire book of James.
- Memorize the Bible verse each week.
- Reject and repent of faith without works.



Every student should want...

- To grow in their understanding of biblical faith.
- To practice religion based on what Scripture says, not the world, culture, or our feelings.
- To know and generously show mercy.

FAMILY WORKOUT:

This week we will ponder how to discuss with our son or daughter the truth that our faith grows in adversity. We will pray for them to grow in their steadfastness and we will lead them to practice growing in their faith.

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Read James 1:1-18 and answer these questions to help you study and discuss the book of James with your son or daughter:

- Use a study Bible and commentary to identify the types of trials the tribes of Israel were facing during James' time. How do these trials differ from the trials we face today? How do James' words still apply to us today?
- What does it mean to be steadfast? How does a faith in Jesus help us become steadfast?
- How is God's wisdom different from the world's? How does wisdom from God help us remain steadfast during trials?
- How does a focus on God help us have joy during our trials?

Read and meditate on James 1:1-8 this week.

- Consider how you can model a steadfast faith to your son or daughter. How can you discuss with them some of the ways you have grown in your faith because of trials? How can you help them understand the importance of a faith that has its foundation on Jesus?



Set aside time to pray with your son or daughter this week.

- Model asking God to help you keep your focus and perspective on Him. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your son or daughter to grow in their own faith in Him.
- Pray with your student this week. Ask the Holy Spirit to help them identify areas of their life where their focus is on the wrong thing and help them focus on Christ.



Memorize James 1:2-4 with your son or daughter this week.

- Set aside time each week to go over these verses with them.
- Meet with your son or daughter to discuss some ways that trials make us grow in our faith. Share some ways that trials have helped you grow in your faith.
- Meet with your student to discuss ways that focus and perspective can influence our response to our trials.