

# **EMBRACING TRIALS**

**James 1:2-8**



**3 Steps to Become More Like  
Jesus And Deeper Our  
Relationship With Him  
Through Our Trials.**



**1. Consider trials as an  
opportunity to experience  
joy. (v.2)**



# **James 1:2**

**“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,”**

**a. Trials are a reality for everyone**

**b. Trials come in all shapes and sizes  
and in varying degrees.**

**c. “count” – to consider.**

**i. To consider how we think, not how we feel.**

**ii. To think about trials differently, to change  
our perspective**



**d. The reason we can experience joy right now is because we have a future hope.**

**i. “For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.” - 2 Cor. 4:17**

**2. Understand the only way to maturity is by enduring trials faithfully. (v. 3-4)**



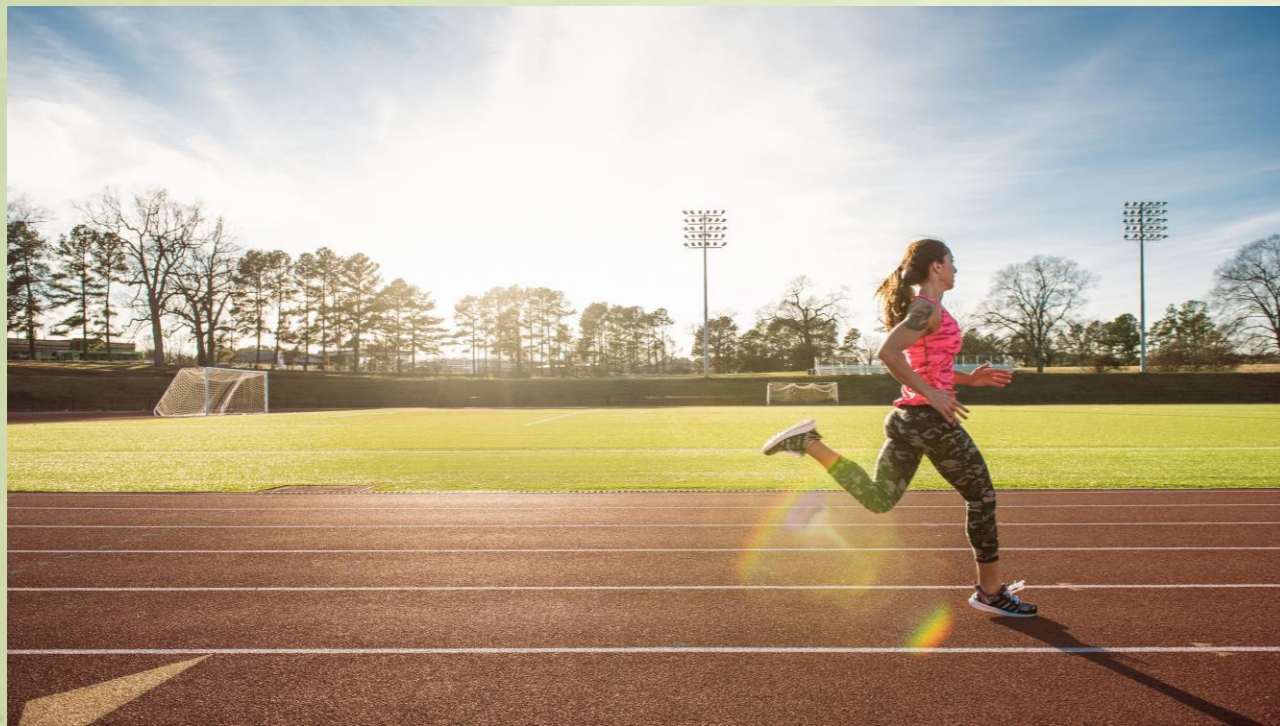


# **James 1:3**

**“for you know that the  
testing of your faith  
produces  
steadfastness.”**

**a. Trials ultimately test the depth of what we believe by putting us in situations where it is not easy to keep going.**

**b. Endurance is the result of repeating an action over and over.**





**The Road, The Rocks, & The Weeds**

**by**

**John Mark McMillan**

**“I have no answers for  
hurt knees and cancers,  
But a Savior who suffers  
them with me.”**

# **James 1:4**

**“And let steadfastness  
have its full effect, that  
you may be perfect and  
complete, lacking in  
nothing.”**

**c. The ultimate goal for Christians is to have a mature and complete faith that lacks nothing.**

**i. Maturity – when the things you claim to believe are actually proven by the way you live.**

**1) Becoming more like Jesus in our character and conduct.**



**3. Remember to PRAY for  
wisdom (v. 5-8)**



# **James 1:5**

**“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given to him.”**

**a. God is generous.**

**i. He gives us wisdom whenever we ask for it.**

**b. God gives without reproach.**

**i. He gives without reprimanding or belittling us.**



# **James 1:6**

**“But let him ask in faith,  
with no doubting, for the  
one who doubts is like a  
wave of the sea that is  
driven and tossed by the  
wind.”**

# **James 1:7, 8**

**“For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”**

**c. But ask in faith, with no doubting**

**i. Our asking flows out of our commitment to God.**

**d. The doubter is a double-minded man**

**i. Lit. – a “two-souled” person**

**1) A person who prays just to “play it safe” and “cover their bases.”**

## **Heather Thompson Day**

**“I went to bed last night and realized, that in my hurt and despair, I reached for my husband, my twitter, my news... but not my God. I didn’t reach for him. My hands were already full.”**