



August 8th Discussion Guide

Trials and Temptations - James 1:2-21

This is a 5 week study in the Book of James. Content for this discussion guide is based on the sermon, so participation in weekly worship will enhance the conversation on this topic. If you want to watch the sermon it can be viewed at [Sermons Archive - Good Shepherd Church Naperville](#)

Prayer

Open your group in prayer.

Icebreaker (10 min)

What is your favorite museum or art gallery you have visited?

Discussion (45 min) -

1. Read James 1:2-15.
 - a. Define “trial” and “temptation”. Share an example from your own life that helps define either word.
 - b. What does each produce?
 - c. How do they differ?
 - d. Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. How has this verse been misinterpreted?
2. What do we receive when we persevere? Why is this important?
3. Read vs. 5-6, 16-18, and Matthew 7:7-8.
 - a. What should we do when we lack wisdom? What should we NOT do?
 - b. What has God given you when you have asked?
4. Read vs. 19-21.
 - a. What does James tell us to do to better handle trials and temptations?
 - b. How does this challenge you in your daily life?
5. How does this passage of Scripture help you look at troubles and temptations from a new point of view? Share a time when you have seen the joy from a trial.
6. How can your group pray for you this week regarding a current trial or temptation?

Application question: How will you consider a trial or temptation an opportunity to grow, ask for wisdom, or patiently endure this week? Share with your group the results next week!

LORD, thank you for being good all the time! We pray for the joy, perseverance, maturity, and wisdom that you have promised when we endure trials or temptations! Help us be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry, so that we may produce the righteousness you desire.

