

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | July 4, 2021 Family Theme | Faith Overcomes Trials Study Text | James 1:1-18

Objective: Help your children understand God uses trials to test and grow our faith. We keep doing what is right, trusting God to use every circumstance for our ultimate good.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set in the early years of the New Testament Church, perhaps as early as 15 years after the resurrection of Jesus, when persecution, conflict, and putting faith into practice needed to be addressed.

Bible Basics: Memorize James 1:22 this week and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: James 1:1-18

Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children or grandchildren about how God uses trials and difficulty to help us grow in our faith and become more like Christ, and about ways we can overcome temptation.



Key Truth: God Can Bring Good From Trials (James 1:1-8)

The believers were experiencing trials and difficulty at this time, including persecution, yet James encouraged them to look to their trials with joy. Trials served as the first link of a long, yet profitable chain of growth: perseverance, steadfastness, and patience. It is a blessing to those around us when we can demonstrate joy in facing trials. It shows others the difference it makes to know and walk with Christ. All believers need to learn that trials are going to come. It is even more important, however, for them to learn that God can use trials to accomplish good things within us.



Key Truth: Poverty and Wealth Bring Their Own Trials and Temptations (James 1:9-11)

One source of difficulty and temptation is our economic status. Believers from lower economic ranks can rejoice because they know that what they endure is not the end of the story. They know their rich status as redeemed children of God will be revealed. Wealthier believers should remind themselves of life's fragile brevity. This helps them focus on obedience to God rather than an undue concern for their wealth. Let us focus on our relationship with Christ, more than our relationship to material things. Let us use what God has blessed us with to bring Him glory.



Key Truth: Our Own Sinful Desires Entice Us to Sin (James 1:12-18)

Temptation to sin comes from Satan, never from God. We are tempted when our own sinful nature and desires are drawn to the sources of temptation around us. Satan, his demons, and the worldly system he rules over dangle the temptation before us, but it is our own sinful desires that entice us to sin. Willpower alone will never rescue us from trials and temptation. The only way we can stand firm against temptation is with God's strength and power. As we ask God for help and submit to the control and direction of the Holy Spirit, He gives us the power to take the "way out" that God provides.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- Why can we have joy in the midst of trials?
- What kinds of trials sometimes come because of riches?
- What kinds of trials sometimes come because of poverty?
- How can we focus on bringing God glory, whatever our economic status?
- What is the source of temptation?
- **For Elementary:** How can trials be good for us?
- **For Elementary:** What can we do that will help us overcome temptations we face?

Everyday Extras

America celebrates Independence Day today. However, the United States are not independent of one another. They are an independent country of interdependent states. How are you both independent and dependent?

Take on a family project that requires hard work and teamwork. You could build a rock feature in the garden or a small butterfly puddle. You could clean out the garage or the trunk of the car. Encourage even small children to stick it out and do the (age-appropriate) hard things that are necessary. Then enjoy the reward — the peaceful yard or space for bicycles or vacation trip. Remind your children that our work can be difficult. We often have to wait on the rewards. But God can use even hard situations to help us grow more like Him and assist others.

To build a butterfly puddle:

Instead of putting the saucer underneath a clay flower pot, turn the pot over (like a beehive) and put the saucer on top of it. You can paint both with bright designs if you like. Next put colorful stones in the saucer and pour water in, almost covering the stones. The butterflies can land on the rocks and take a quick “shower” without drowning.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

The book of James teaches us to be slow to speak and slow to anger. Today your child learned we should think about the words we say before we say them. We are to be careful with the words we say when we are angry so we don't say things we don't mean. **I Can Make Good Choices With My Words.**