Lesson for Midday and Evening Becoming Sessions

James 1:1-18

Trials and Temptations

Lesson Central Idea

Trials and Temptations Are Not *Purposeless*Trials and Temptations Are *Purposeful*

OPEN IT

- Why would you agree or disagree with the statement, "Life is 10 percent what happens to you and 90 percent how you respond to what happens to you?"
- How would you respond to someone who tells you that good can come from the trials you are experiencing?
- What doubts about God and prayer does the average person usually experience?

EXPLORE IT

- Who wrote this letter? (1:1)
- To whom was this letter written? (1:1)
- What attitude did James tell people to exhibit when they are facing trials? (1:2)
- What is produced when our faith is tested? (1:3-4)
- What is God's response when our faith is tested? (1:5)
- What effect does doubt have on a person when they pray? (1:6-8)
- What will eventually happen to the wealth of a rich person? (1:10-11)
- What reward awaits the person who perseveres under trial? (1:12)
- From where does temptation come? (1:13-15)
- How does sin start and end? (1:13-15)
- From where do all good and perfect gifts come? (1:16-17)
- How did James describe God's sovereignty with the people He created? (1:17-18)

GET IT

- What trials and difficulties have you experienced during your life?
- Why does God allow people to go through trials and difficulties?
- What good has ever come out of a difficult situation in your life?
- How does a person's relationship with God change as they go through trials and problems?
- When do you find it hardest to pray?
- With what doubts have you struggled concerning God and prayer?
- How can doubt affect a person's prayer life?
- How can a person who pursues wealth and riches be disappointed?
- In what way have material possessions disappointed you once you possessed them?
- How would you explain why a person does something wrong or evil to a ten-year-old?
- Why do we often blame God for tempting us when we sin?
- What can a person do to stop an evil desire from becoming an actual evil act?

APPLY IT

- What do you believe God is trying to teach you this week through trials and situations you are experiencing?
- What specific areas do you need to ask God for His wisdom this week?
- What temptations do you need God's help to resist this week?

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BILLBOARD

Trust God To Work Out His Purpose Through Your Trials!