

Surviving Life's Storms
Active Faith Unleashed – Part 1
Life Church St. Louis – July 23, 2023
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Romans 5:3 (ESV) Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,

Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV) Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Matthew 23:12 (ESV) Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

1. _____ in the storm

James 1:1 (ESV) James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings.

James 1:2-3 (ESV) Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

James 1:4 (ESV) And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. _____ for wisdom in the storm

James 1:5 (ESV) If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

James 1:6 (ESV) 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 (ESV) 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.

3. Cherish _____ in the storm

James 1:9 (ESV) Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation,

James 1:10-11 (ESV) and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

James 1:12 (ESV) Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

Surviving Life's Storms Study Guide

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Intro. What reason does Romans 5:3 give us for rejoicing in the storms of life?

Why are we prone to lean on our own understanding in life's storms (Proverbs 3:5-6)?

Why is God concerned about our humility in the midst of trials (Matthew 23:12)?

1A. Why is it important to recognize that the book of James was written to believers undergoing severe persecution (James 1:1)?

1B. What does it mean to "count it all joy" in life's trials (Luke 1:2-3)?

1C. What is the end result of facing the storms of life God's way (James 1:4)?

1D. How do these verses challenge you to change your view of the trials in your life?

2A. Why is God's wisdom needed in a trial (James 1:5)?

2B. Why is it essential to ask for wisdom in faith without doubting (James 1:6)?

2C. Why will the person who prays but doubts not see their prayer answered (James 1:7-8)?

2D. What can you change in your life to receive and follow God's wisdom in the trials you are facing?

3A. What does James 1:9 mean for a poor brother to boast in his exaltation?

3B. In what ways can trials humble those rich in this life (James 1:10-11)?

3C. What does it mean to remain steadfast under trial (James 1:12)?

3D. How can you learn to humble yourself and embrace humility when facing trials?