

FINDING CALM IN CRISIS

Series: Taking Aim At Life's Toughest Challenges

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NOTES

TEXT: James 1:1-12

I. THE TRUTH ABOUT TROUBLES

James 1

1. Troubles are Inevitable.

"When all kinds of troubles crowd into your lives..."

v 2a

2. Troubles are Varied.

"When all kinds of troubles crowd into your lives..."

v 2b

3. Troubles are Unpredictable.

"When all kinds of troubles crowd into your lives ...as intruders..."

v 2c

4. Troubles are Productive.

"Realize these troubles come ...to produce in you..."

v 3

II. WHEN CRISES COME

CRISES...

1. Test my Faith

"These troubles come to test your faith..."

v 3a

2. Develop my Endurance

"You know that such testing of your faith produces endurance"

v 3a

3. Mature my Character

"Let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong character and ready for anything."

v 4

I Lose When I...

_____ it

"Do not give the devil a foothold"

Eph 4:27

_____ it

"Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear..."

James 5:12

_____ it

"But one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead."

Phil 3:13

I Win When I...

_____ it!

"Do not be conformed to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

Rom 12:2

III. FINDING CALM IN CRISIS

1. Rejoice - knowing God Can Use It

"My friends, when you have many kinds of troubles, you should be full of joy..."

James 1:2

"We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him."

Rom 8:28

2. Relax - don't Panic...Pray!

"If, in the process any of you doesn't know how to meet any particular problem, you only have to ask God

who gives wisdom generously to any who ask without making them feel guilty – and you may be sure that the necessary wisdom will be given to you."

James 1:7

3. Rely on God - believing He Will Help Me

"But when you ask God, you must sincerely believe and expect him to answer without doubting him."

James 1:8

David: "When I was helpless, God saved me. I said to myself, "Relax, because the Lord takes care of you."

Ps 116:6-7

4. Refuse to Quit - remembering God's Promises

"Happy are those who remain faithful under trials, because when they succeed in passing such a test, they will receive as their reward the life which God has promised to those who love him."

James 1:1-2