

## Questions?

When faced with trials what should we pray for?

What should be the Christians attitude when facing trials?

## Reflection time:

Time line...mark in the difficult times—what did God say to you in these times and how did he help you?



## Prayer time

## Preparation for Session 3—Prejudice

James 2:1-13 & 4:1-6, 10

Read Ecclesiastes 3:24-46; Matthew 19:16-30; Luke 10:30-37 and 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

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# The Parish of Cannock and Huntington

## *Creating Community with Christ at the Centre*

### Bible Studies on James

#### A study of faith in action according to St. James

## Session 2

### Stresses, Strains and Pressures

#### Read James Chapter 1

#### 1. Tests—Trials—Troubles Verses 2-4 & 12

These are the challenges life throws at us. In difficult times our attitude and response makes all the difference.

Trials and adversity test our faith and produce in us the quality of endurance.

#### 2. Choices Verses 5-8

These are part of everyday life. In decision making how often do we spend time asking God for wisdom in dealing with any given situation?

James encourages prayer for wisdom. True wisdom is a gift from God.

### **3. Poverty and Riches Verses 9-11**

The acquisition of wealth is the god many worship today. James reminds his readers not to be partial to the wealthy nor prejudiced to the poor

### **4. Enduring Temptation Verses 12-18**

Temptation is COMMON to us all. It is an inescapable part of a fallen world.

Temptation is CONDITIONAL—we can resist temptation. It is a matter of character and choice.

Temptation is CONQUERABLE because we are God's children by new birth we can become the people God wants us to be.

### **5. Hearing and doing God's Word**

Learn to control our anger Verses 19 –21

There is no place for temper tantrums and sharp words in the Christian life.

Do not be deceived Verses 26-27

Look regularly at the scriptures and let it reflect what's really going on in your life

Bridle the tongue Verses 26-27

Anyone who claims to follow Christ and can't control the tongue is self-deluded.

This passage ends with an emphasis on the practice of pure religion.

How involved are we in serving the needs of others?