



Life Group Questions (James 1:1-4)

1. Read James 1:1-4 together. What stands out to you from this passage? What questions come to mind? What stood out to you from Sunday's message?
2. James begins his letter by saying he is a "servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ..." What does this tell of about James' character? Why is this greetings so astounding knowing James' background of unbelief? Look up the following passages to understand more who James was:
 - Matthew 13:55-56
 - 1 Corinthians 15:6-7
 - Galatians 2:9
 - Acts 15:12-20
3. On Sunday, Pastor Andrew talked about 3 various kinds of trials: a cause and effect trial, a spiritual trial, and a spiritually mysterious trial. Which of these trials have you experienced in your own life? What was your response to them?
4. Concerning a trial that you have experienced, what pressures did it put on your faith? After you came through that trial, did you see a growth in your Christian maturity? How so?
5. How does looking at the big picture help when you are going through a trial? Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 for some help on how we do this.
6. When trials or troubles have come your way has it exposed what your faith was in? What kinds of things do we put our faith in besides Jesus?
7. If you feel comfortable share a trial you are currently going through. What do you think Jesus is trying to teach you through it?

Spend some time in prayer together. Pray for strength and perseverance through trials. Pray that God would remind of the big picture of eternity and what these trials are accomplishing. Praise Jesus that he knows what it is like to suffer and be put through trials.