

Pastor David Higa  
The Testing of Faith  
James 1:1-11

*My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. [James 1:2-4]*

Over the past several weeks we have been looking at the topic of Faith from within our study of Hebrews. “Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” [Heb 11:1] That is the biblical description of faith. Also in Heb 11:6 it says, “without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

Faith is the foundation for a relationship with God. While living in this world we live and relate to God by faith, not sight. There will, however, be a day when our faith turns to sight and that will be the day when Jesus returns. But until then, we continue cultivating a life of faith. *We need to be growing* in our faith daily, and that is what so much of the book of James is about.

James will challenge us. It is a book of exhortations. How does one “count it all joy when you fall into various trials”? How do you “tame the tongue” [ref. chap. 3]?

James calls us to action. “Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” [James 2:17]. He is not teaching that we are saved by works; rather, that a true faith produces works. That is an essential message of James. It would be like saying you’re a car mechanic and never looked under a hood. It wouldn’t make sense; you would be an enigma. Unfortunately some professing Christians are enigmas. But this is a theme in James; if we truly have faith in Jesus we will do the works of Jesus.

We will be receiving challenging exhortations over the next several weeks. “You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe – and tremble!” [James 2:19]

There is a great difference between belief and faith. Faith is belief in action. Action is the key. “Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.” [James 2:18, NIV]

My prayer over the coming weeks is that you will be encouraged to action in what you believe, by faith, and not only have the words of faith. We do need to have words. Words are powerful. Words are one part of the equation in communicating the good news of Jesus Christ. But let us never forget that faith without deeds is a dead. A vital part in faith is action.

This Week:

Sun Morning Services – Livestreamed Only

- 7:30 am James 1:1-11
- 9:30 am James 1:1-11
- 11:30 am James 1:1-11

Sun Evening Service – Serving “To Go” Meals Only.

- 6:30–7:30 pm Pickup “To Go” meals at HT Church Office.

Wed Evening Service – Livestreamed Only

- 7:30 pm Ecclesiastes 8-9

Fri Evening – HT Home Group

- 6:30-8:30 pm James 1:1-11 - Inductive Bible Study

Worship Services:

Sundays at 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.  
All Services Live Streamed at [www.ccEchoPark.com](http://www.ccEchoPark.com)

Sunday Evening at 6:30 p.m.  
Church Office - The Hidden Treasure Bookshop  
1822 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, 90026  
Only Serving “To Go” Meals



Friday Night HT Home Group

Please join us for our Fri Night HT Home Group from 6:30-8:30 pm at our HT Church Office located at 1822 W. Temple St., on the corner of Bonnie Brae & Temple. Join us for worship, Bible Study, prayer, and warm fellowship. We will be starting the book of James this Fri and reviewing the Sun morning message.

Live Streamed Services

- Sunday Morning [7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM]
- Wednesday Evening [7:30 PM]

Sunday Evening Service

- Only serving “To Go” meals for pickup from 6:30-7:30 pm. No formal service.

Online Giving

Now available at [www.ccEchoPark.com](http://www.ccEchoPark.com)



The Hidden Treasure Bible Bookshop & Boutique is open for email & phone orders! Call 213.413.3865 or email [ccEchoPark@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ccEchoPark@sbcglobal.net).

Audio messages at: [www.ccEchoPark.com](http://www.ccEchoPark.com). CDs for \$1.

DailyBibleReading: 07/20 – 07/26: Proverbs 22 – Ecclesiastes 12. Reading plan at Information Table.

SpanishTranslation is available during our services using small remote earpiece units. Please come to the Information Table.

PrayerRequests: We are available for prayer right after the service or you can fill out a PrayerCard and drop it in the offering box.

As a courtesy, please turn off cell phones and pagers during service.