

THE TURBULENT PATH TO MATURITY

James 1:1-8

NEIL TRAINER

September 17, 2017



NOTES

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Suggested Questions for Individual Study or Group Discussion*



- What is one of the most difficult tests or exams you have had to take? How did it turn out?
- How does James instruct his readers to face their trials? What is his reasoning for this?
- When you have considered your own trials in the past, what has been your attitude? What has shaped your perspective on hard times over the years?
- How does James connect our trials, our faith, and perseverance?
- When perseverance or endurance has done its work in us, what is the result (v. 4)? How does this compare with the person described in v. 6-8?
- Why is God-given wisdom necessary in our trials? Why must we ask for wisdom with faith?
- What does James emphasize about God's character? How does this give us confidence in asking for wisdom? How would a wrong understanding of God lead us to doubt God?
- When have you prayed for and received wisdom from God? How does that shape the way you view your trials and persevere in them?
- How can you apply James' instructions to a trial you're currently facing?
- How can your small group or others join you in praying for wisdom? Conclude by asking God to generously give you all you need for your trials, including wisdom and single-minded faith.

*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.