

## God's Purpose in Trials

When Life Hits Hard, James 1:1-12

February 5, 2022

Community Group Discussion Questions

### PLEASE READ BEFORE LEADING DISCUSSION

- Recommended questions are highlighted in bold, but select 5 or 6 questions you think will work best for your group discussion. You likely won't have time to discuss all of the questions so choose which questions you will ask ahead of time and make sure to provide plenty of time to focus on the application questions.
- Feel free to edit or reword questions to best fit your group.
- You may want to print out copies of this document for everyone so they can follow along with the questions as you read them.
- Check out this Facilitation Guide (<http://bit.ly/CGFacilitationGuide>) for tips on leading good discussions.

### ICEBREAKER (5-10 Minutes)

1. Share your name and answer the following question:
  - What is something that brought you joy this week?

**OPENING THE DISCUSSION (5-10 Minutes)** – Have someone recap the message in about a minute or two and then ask the following questions:

2. **What thoughts or questions did Sunday's sermon raise for you?**

**DIGGING DEEPER (10 Minutes)** – ask everyone to follow along in their Bible or Bible app. You might consider looking up these passages online and sharing your screen to review them together.

3. **Read James 1:1-12.**
  - **What themes stand out to you from this passage?**
4. **Reread James 1:2.**
  - **Is responding to trials with pure joy even possible? What would that even look like?**
  - What can we learn from the rest of this passage about how we can respond with joy?
5. **Reread James 1:2-4 and vs 12.**
  - **Who is someone you know who has exemplified these verses well in their own trials? How has their faith impacted you?**
6. Read John 16:33.
  - What hope do Jesus' words give us when life is hard?

### APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes)

7. **What is one trial you are currently facing, big or small, that our group can be praying about for you?**