

Weekend Recap - Discussion Guide

James: Living a Genuine Life - Week 2
August 18-21

Title: The Way of Growth

Big Idea: All growth comes from discomfort.

Optional Ice Breaker: Name something in your life that you wish you had an easy button for.

Discuss

1. Does being blessed by God equate to life being easy?
2. How has adversity allowed you to be tested?
3. Why do you think James encourages us to have “pure joy” during suffering and trials?
4. Is it a sin to ask God hard questions? Is it wrong to doubt? Why or why not?
5. What is a question you have for God that you are waiting on an answer?

For Students: Pastor Cal mentioned two struggles in our faith: discomfort and doubt. Which one is harder for you? Why?

Challenge

- Pick an area of your life you want to grow. How can you step outside your comfort and into discomfort to grow this week? Make it real by putting a reminder in your phone or having someone hold you accountable.

Scriptures

1. James 1:2-8 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.
2. Romans 5:2-5 And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.
3. John 14- 27-28 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. “You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming back to you.’ If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

Prayer

- Take time to share with God an area of your life where you are experiencing discomfort or doubt. Pray for God to allow for your faith to grow during the struggle and for you to be able to hear answers to your questions and prayers.