***James, Peter, John, Jude - In Times Like These***

**Lesson 1**

**Turning Trials into Triumphs**

Read James 1:1-1:11

Memory Work: James 1:2-4

1.a. Read James through in one sitting.

 b. What is James trying to tell us?

**Challenge** Who wrote this letter? Which James?

Who are the recipients? Verse 1

2.a. What are we to do when we fall into various trials and why?

b. Then a trial is for….

c. What might the Lord be developing in your life at this time and could you share?

d. Does it help you to know that there is a purpose for your trial… how?

e. Why is not good to retreat in a time of trial?

3.a. What does it mean to “let patience have its perfect work?” Verse 4

b. How will this make me “perfect, complete, lacking nothing?”

4. What James says here in verses 3 and 4 is also found elsewhere in Scripture. Look up the following and give the meaning:

a. Matthew 5:11-12

b. Romans 5:3-5

c. Hebrews 2:10

d. Hebrews 12:11

e. 1 Peter 1:6-7

5.a. What kind of wisdom does God give to all, liberally and without reproach?

b. How are we to ask?

c. Why would doubts be like the waves of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind?

d. Is it wrong to doubt?

**Evaluate** e. What do you do with your doubts?

f. Will you receive anything from the Lord if you are double-minded….what does it mean to be

double-minded?

g. What could churches do to help double-minded, unstable people to grow and mature? Ephesians 4:11-16

6. From verses 9-11, what is James trying to tell us when he says that the lowly brother should glory in his exaltation and the one who is rich should glory in his humiliation…. And why tie this in with the flowers of the field?

7.a. From verse 12, what reward will the believer have who endures temptation?

b. What is the difference between a temptation and a test?

c. Why would it be called a “crown of life?” See also Revelation 2:10

d. What other crowns may believers earn?

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20

2 Timothy 4:7-8

1 Peter 5:4