

3 Jan 2010 - Preached by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Message Topic: **Consider your Trials a Joy**
Scripture Text: James 1: 1-4

1. The Bible tells us in the Book of James to count it all joy when trials and testing come our way. The word "all joy" refers to complete, pure and fullness of joy. This is an imperative which is a command for us that we should thank God even when trials come to us. The word "temptations" in verse 2 refers to trials and tribulations sent by God to mature our faith.
2. God wants to mold us to be more like Jesus Christ and hence He will use trials to sanctify us. A good example is Job in which he lost all his property and children and yet he still blessed the name of God.
3. The Bible tells us the trials will be diverse i.e. different. It can come in the lost of loved ones or a job or losing our health etc. We can feel depressed or discouraged by it but must still give thanks to God and find God close to us and He is dependable.
4. Testing will produce patience in us. This means endurance in that we are put under intense pressure and yet will not break. God will use trials to prove and test whether our faith in Him is genuine or not. Genuine faith is an enduring faith.
5. Finally patience will work in us a victorious life and we will have a close relationship with God whatever comes to our lives. We should grow from "Inexperienced Faith" to "Experienced Faith" to "Faith that needs no experience".