

# Community Group Discussion Guide

Sunday, July 13, 2025

Scripture: James 1:12-15



## THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

The love of God leads to life, no matter the difficulties faced; and sin always leads to death, no matter the pleasure.

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

1. Contrast the Bible's definition of "blessed" with the world's? Does it negate hardship and agony in life?
2. How can we know whether we are being tested by the Lord or tempted? Does it change how we respond?
3. Discuss the difference between "trials" and "temptation" as James uses them.
4. What are the three characteristics of the one who remains steadfast under trial (verse 12)?
5. What is the prize for a lifetime of endurance, and how do we endure to the end? Discuss the connection between our love for God and endurance.
6. What trial are you undergoing that God is using to teach you how to love Him more? Share a time you secretly, openly, or unwittingly blamed God for the hardship in your life.
7. Why can James be confident that God is never the source of temptation?
8. Explain how profound theological truth, particularly about the nature of God, is always immensely practical for life.
9. What is the natural lifecycle of sin as James defines it, and how does Jesus break the cycle?

## GOSPEL OBSERVATIONS

- A heart transformed by the gospel, evidenced in growing love for God, is what gives believers the strength to endure to the end.
- The gospel reveals that God is good and pure in all he does.
- Our sinfulness is deeper and darker than we often realize. The gospel is stronger and brighter than we understand.