



Adulting

Accept

Snooze

Expositional study on the book of James.

*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

INTRODUCTION

09/17/2017

Following Jesus results in a very practical change. He calls his followers to grow in maturity and into his image—to be Christ-like. This results in individual transformation, as well as, transformation into Christ-honoring community.

QUESTIONS

1. Out of John's overview of the Adulting series, what seems most exciting to you? What are you hoping to get out of this series?
2. What from Sunday's message stood out to you most? Why?
3. How does faith and practical instruction exist together? Which one might you lean more closely to or value more?
4. Re-read James 1:1-12. What themes do you see in these verses? Why do you think James is writing this letter?
5. Have you seen someone face trials with joy? What did it look like? What did it not look like?
6. Where does this joy come from? And how can someone have it in hardships and trials? (James 1:2, 12; cf. Matthew 5:11-12)
7. What is the intended effect of trials on the Christian and the Christian community? (1 Peter 1:6-7, 13)

8. One obstacle to persevering or enduring through trials is what James calls being “double-minded”. How would you define being double-minded? What are the practical outcomes?
9. Why do you think James further describes a doubter as being “double-minded”? What do they have in common or how might they be different in your understanding?
10. Have you seen elements of “double-mindedness” in your life, past or present? (James 1:6-8)
11. How have times of doubt or being double-minded in your relationship with Christ inhibited your perseverance or joy during a trial?
12. Can you think of a difficult experience that has increased your perseverance and maturity? What helped during that time? Is there anything that you could have done to more fully rely on the grace and joy of Jesus during that time? (try to be specific)
13. Ephesians 4:14-15 reads, “¹⁴ Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won’t be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. ¹⁵ Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ...” (New Living Translation).

Considering the challenge of James 1:1-12 and Ephesians 4:14-15 to grow into maturity and reflecting Jesus in your life, what areas of growth is God calling you to?

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Jesus, I thank you for the encouragement and promise of Scripture. You promise hope, healing, and reward if I find my joy and endurance in you. I ask that you would grant me strength to overcome the trials that I face. Fill me with hope so that I might find peace and joy in the midst of the storm. May I commit myself to you and your process of transformation, choosing a single-minded approach that builds maturity and makes me more like you. In Jesus name I pray, amen.