The Need to Be Prepared

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| Lesson 1: trials (Jam 1:2a; Ac | ts 14:22; 1 Thes 3:3; 1 Pet 4:12-19; John 16:33)! |
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| Lesson 2: Trials are | , but not accidents (Jam 1:2b; Rom 8:28; 1 Pet 1:6). |
| Lesson 3: A strong | _ is needed (Matt 7:24-27). |
| Lesson 4: Build during of | (2 Chr 14:2-12). |
| Lesson 5: Jesus provided victory over the | (1 Cor 15:26, 54-57; Rev 20:14). |
| Lesson 6: During the | , "The LORD is [still] very compassionate and merciful" (Jam 5:11b; Job |
| Lesson 7: There's an " | by the Lord" in trials (Jam 5:11b). |

Discussion Questions

- 1. Why should it be encouraging to remember God is in control while you are in the middle of a trial?
- 2. Have you been "building your walls" during times of peace? If yes, how? If not, how will you build in the future?
- 3. What daily trials do you experience that you need to be aware of, because of their potential to wear you down?
- 4. During trials, what characteristics of God can you focus on to help you better endure trials? Write down a verse (or two) to memorize that reveals this characteristic.
- 5. Unbelievers and some genuine believers ask, "Why would a loving God _____?" How would you answer this question, considering 1 Peter 3:15 says we must "always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks [for] a reason for the hope that is in" us?
- 6. When has God used a trial in your life to bring forth good? In other words, when have you been able to look back on a trial and see the end intended by the Lord?

NOTE: The message and discussion questions are taken from *Enduring Trials God's Way*.



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Enduring Trials God's Way: A Biblical Recipe for Finding Joy in Suffering

Trials are part of life on this side of heaven, and God wants to use them for your good! Learn scriptural principles that give you the encouragement you need when suffering. Every chapter concludes with questions that help you apply what you are reading.

- Develop the spiritual perspective to embrace trials
- Appreciate the maturity trials produce
- Understand the rewards for enduring trials
- Recognize God is still compassionate and gracious during trials

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