



## Suffering Purposefully

## 2nd in the “James” Series

James 1:2-4

April 30, 2023

Pastor Mickey Klink

# Introduction

In this passage, God challenges our inadequate view of suffering and teaches us its process and purpose.

## The Text: James 1:2-4

- 1) How should we think about our suffering? (v. 2)

- 2) What is the purpose of our suffering? (v. 3)

- 3) How does God use our suffering for our good? (v. 4)

## Response

Lord, on the road marked with suffering, though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name!

## Sunday Text Questions

James 1:2-4

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- 1) Do you agree with the concern of some pastors and theologians that the greatest deficit to American Christianity is an inadequate view of suffering?
- 2) To consider our suffering “pure joy” means not that we don’t feel pain or hurt but that we pursue a settled contentment in every situation. How does the command in v. 2 and its proper definition change how you think about suffering?
- 3) Since God uses suffering to refine us and mature us (vv. 3-4), how should we respond to suffering when it enters our lives?
- 4) How has God used suffering in your past or present to refine and mature you, or what can you do now to prepare for suffering purposefully in the future?
- 5) In what other ways, if any, did this passage speak into your life to teach, rebuke, correct, or train you in righteousness (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16)?

**Further study this week:** Passages related to the message of this week’s text: 1 Peter 4:1-2 (Mon); 1 Peter 5:10 (Tues); 2 Corinthians 4:7-12 (Wed); Hebrews 2:10 (Thurs); Revelation 21:4 (Fri).