

WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS.... MAKE LEMONADE

WHAT CAN SOUR TIMES IN LIFE DO?

1. DIFFICULT TIMES CAN PRODUCE _____

Hope is: a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

“And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.” **Romans 5:2b–5.**

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.” **Romans 5:1-2a 2.**

2. TRIALS CAN PROVIDE _____

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything” **James 1:2–4.**

We are to see trials as opportunities to gain new strength through overcoming.

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!” **Philippians 4:4**

The choice is, “Will I trust in God and His promises, or not?”

WHAT CAN WE DO?

1. ADOPT A _____ ATTITUDE

“Consider it all joy” **James 1:2**

a. VIEW THIS TRIAL AS _____ NOT AS A SURPRISE

James did not say “if” you encounter a trial but “when”.

b. THIS DOES NOT MEAN WE DENY _____ PAIN.

“Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.” **Romans 12:15**

c. UNDERSTAND JOY IS _____ IN THE MIDST OF A TRIAL

This is where we will stand out to the world.

2. _____ GOD

“...know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.” **James 1:3**