

**Finding Community
Come Together**

- A. Intro: What kind of hobbies and interests excite you?
- B. Big Idea: Our Faith brings us together.
- C. Scripture: James 1:1-4 NLT – This letter is from James, a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. I am writing to the “twelve tribes”—Jewish believers scattered abroad. Greetings! ² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.
- D. What aspects of our Faith bring us together?
 - a. Walking through Struggles
 - i. James 1:2 NLT – ² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.
 - ii. Acts 2:42 NLT – ⁴² All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer.
 - iii. Genesis 2:18 NLT – ¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.”
 - iv. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 NLT – ⁹ Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. ¹⁰ If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. ¹¹ Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? ¹² A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.
 - b. Trusting God through Trials
 - i. Psalm 20:7 NIV – ⁷ Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.
 - ii. Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT – ⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶ Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.
 - iii. James 1:3 NLT – ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.
 - c. Celebrating Milestones

- i. James 1:4 NLT – ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.
- ii. Romans 5:3-5 NLT – ³ We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. ⁴ And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. ⁵ And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

E. Close: What are you currently walking through that you need to walk through in Community?

- a. Next Steps
 - i. Memorize: Ecclesiastes 4:9 NLT – ⁹ Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed.
 - ii. Think: Who is God putting around me that I can trust and share life with?
 - iii. Action: Schedule coffee or lunch with the person God puts on your mind.