

# “Growing in Christ”

~ James 1:2–18

Sermon Series:  
Lent



February 14, 2021 ~ Pastor Kurt Ebert

## 1. Invest yourself in the will of God.

Count it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

*(James 1:2–3)*

## 2. Receive the reward that awaits.

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

*(James 1:12)*

But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

*(James 1:14–15)*

## 3. Rejoice in Him who alone is steadfast and the giver of all good.

And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

*(James 1:4)*

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

*(James 1:17)*

**Text for Personal Reflection:**

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change”  
*(James 1:17)*

**Prayer & Reflection Questions:**

What are some of the many “good gifts” that you have received from the Lord recently that you may not have taken the time to thank Him?

What important message should we draw for our lives that this verse concludes an entire section on standing firm in the trials and suffering of life?

What do you think it means that James says, “Count it all joy when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness” (1:2-3)? Are we to be ‘happy’ about the suffering itself?