## The Book of James: Living Authentically "When Life is Hard" James 1:1-18 (CSB)

1. Learn to <u>appreciate</u> the trials I am in for the <u>purposes</u> they produce. (James 1:2 CSB)

For every *complaint*, say three things I am *grateful* for. (James 1:3 CSB)

**Endurance** (ὑπομονή, hypomonē) = "the power to stay"

**The Choice**: Let my trials **shape my character** or let my trials **shatter my hope**. (James 1:4 CSB)

**Perspective Shift**: Trials are **temporary tools** for God's **eternal purposes**.

a. In trials, be **willing** to **ask** God for **wisdom**. (James 1:5 CSB)

When God delays responding to prayer it is because He is expediting growth in our character that can only occur through endurance!

- **2. Times of <u>difficulty</u> often reveal areas of <u>vulnerability</u>. (James 1:13-15 CSB)** 
  - a. Look for the **steady goodness** of God amid the **shifting circumstances** of life. (James 1:16-17 CSB)

Don't let **today's hardships** let you forget **yesterday's victories** or **tomorrow's promises**. (John 16:33 NLT)