**“Living Out Your Faith through Trials”**

**James 1:1-18**

**AUTHORSHIP: It is quite generally agreed that James, called by Paul “the Lord’s brother,” (Gal. 1:19), was the writer of the epistle.**

**TO WHO ADDRESSED: Apparently to the Jewish converts who lived outside the Holy Land, possibly also to the devout Jews of the dispersion, ch.1:1.**

**MAIN THEME: Practical Religion, manifesting itself in good works, contrasted with mere Profession of Faith.**

**KEY TEXTS: James 1:27 – Religion that God the Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world; James 2:26 – As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.**

**THE PROCESS (James 1:1-8)**

**THE PRIDE (James 1:9-11)**

**THE PROMISE (James 1:12)**

**THE PRODUCT (James 1:13-15)**

**THE PROVISION (James 1:16-18)**

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**Sample Harvest Homes Questions**

**1) Which verses stand out to you?**

**2) What principles and lessons do you see in the word?**

**3) How can you apply these principles to your life?**

**4) What teachings or statements don’t you quite understand and want to study further?**

**5) What did you learn about God?**

**6) What did you learn about human nature?**

**7) What did you learn about your own relationship with God?**

**8) You believe that God is calling you to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Confession of Faith**

**The Process – I consider it pure joy when I face the trials of life because the trying of my faith is developing perseverance. Perseverance is finishing its work in me. I am mature and complete lacking nothing. God’s wisdom dwells in me and I am stable in all my ways.**

**The Pride – When I have little I am proud of my exalted position. Those times when I am rich I take pride in my low position.**

**The Promise – I am blessed because I persevere under trials. When I have stood the test I will receive the crown of life. I am standing on the promises of God because I love him and keep His commandments.**

**The Product – Because God is never the source of temptation in my life I will never blame Him. I recognize that I am only dragged away and enticed by the lust within me. When that lust is conceived it brings forth sin and sins product is death.**

**The Provision – Thanks be to God that every good and perfect gift if from God the Father above and that He never changes. Thank God also that He has chosen to give us birth through the word of truth making me a kind of first fruits of all He created.**