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The Bible wasn't given just to increase our knowledge, the Bible was given to change our life...

- today we ask the spirit of God
- to use the word of God
- to transform us to be like the Son of God

2

James 1:2-4 (NIV).

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

3

Two truths about trials:

1. Trials are inevitable

4

1 Corinthians 10:13a (The Message) ... No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face.

5

- Why does God let us be tested at all?
- Why does He let any trials and problems get through His hedge and reach us?

6

Two truths about trials:

1. Trials are inevitable
2. Trials are indispensable

7

**Psalms 26:2-3 (NLT).
Put me on trial Lord, and cross
examine me. Test my motives
and my affections. 3 For I am
constantly aware of your
failing love.**

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Three Things Trials Can Create:

1. Trials can purify our faith

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**James 1:3 (Message).
You know that under
pressure, your faith-life is
forced into the open and
shows its true colors.**

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**Three Things Trials
Can Create:**

1. Trials can purify our faith
2. Trials fortify our patience

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**James 1:3 (Living Bible).
For when the way is
rough, your patience has
a chance to grow.**

16

**Hebrews 10:36 (NLT).
Patient endurance is what
you need now, so that you
will continue to do God's
will. Then you will receive
all that he has promised.**

17

**Hebrews 12:1 (NLT).
Therefore, since we are surrounded by
such a huge crowd of witnesses to the
life of faith, let us strip off every weight
that slows us down, especially the sin
that so easily hinders our progress. And
let us run with endurance the race God
has set before us.**

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Three Things Trials Can Create:

1. Trials can purify our faith
2. Trials fortify our patience
3. Trials sanctify our character

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Romans 5:3-5 (NLT). We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us – they help us learn to endure. 4 And endurance develops strength of character in us, and character

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strengthens our confident expectation of salvation. 5 And this expectation will not disappoint us. For we know how early God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

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Romans 8:28 (NIV). And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

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Romans 8:29 (NIV). For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed into the likeness of his Son.

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James 1:4 (NLT). So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything.

24

**Three questions to ask yourself
when going through a trial:**

1. Have you tried celebrating by faith?
2. Have you tried to contemplate the goal of a trial?
3. Have you tried cooperating with God?