



**"Make Lemonade"**  
Southern Lakes Church  
Pastor Ken Brummel  
3-22-20

## **James 1:1-5**

### ***What do you do when life hands you lemons?***

**How do we deal with the trials we are facing?**

#### **1. Expect Trials: (v.2)**

- It is not a matter of "if" but "when"

**John 16:33** *"In the world you will have tribulation."*

**Acts 14:22** *"We must through many tribulations enter the Kingdom of God."*

- In the normal course of life, we will encounter many trials.
- "Count" means to evaluate or consider. Phil. 3:7-8

**Romans 8:18** *"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."*

- Your outlook will determine the outcome. To end with Joy you must begin with Joy.

#### **2. Know that God is up to something good: (v.3)**

- How do we develop patience?

**Job 23:10** *"But He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold."*

**I Pet. 1:6,7** *"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ."*

- Testing produces patience.
- Patience is not a passive acceptance of the circumstances, but an active perseverance in the face of suffering and difficulties.

#### **3. Grow through the trial: (v.4)**

- "Perfect" (Greek = Telios) does not mean perfection, but mature. Maturity is becoming like Jesus.
- God wants His children to grow up!
- We have two basic choices: Resist the trials or cooperate.
- Another way God uses trials is to bring us to the Savior.

#### **4. Ask God for wisdom: (v.5)**

- What is wisdom? "Understanding and acting upon things from God's perspective."
- Why do we need wisdom?
  - o So, we don't waste the opportunity to mature.
  - o So, we leverage the trial for our good and God's glory.
- What do you need wisdom for?

**"What if God doesn't want us to just get through this so we can go back to normal?"**

***How will you respond?***