

HOW DOES GOD TEST OUR FAITH?

1 PETER 1:3-9

Every day we have faith building opportunities. The problem is most of us don't recognize them when they appear. We flunk the test because we don't even realize it is a test, and that God is trying to help us grow. So if God wants me to live by faith, and if God builds my faith by testing it, then the natural question is how does God do it?

1) God test our faith through _____.

1 Peter 1:6-7 (ESV) *In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

That's trials, problems, pressures, tough circumstances. The difficulties that come into our lives, come to test and prove our faith.

James 1:2-3 (ESV) *Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.*

2) God test our faith through _____.

Exodus 16:4 (ESV) *Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not.*

There were all kinds of reasons why that command didn't make sense, but that wasn't the point. The point wasn't, does it make sense to them? The point was, I want to test you so that you'll trust me in a day to day way. Often God ask us to do the impossible. Why? He wants to grow our faith.

3) God tests our faith through _____.

Deuteronomy 8:2 (ESV) *And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.*

God can grow us through those irritating times of waiting, and often grows us the most when those waiting times are life tests. That's what happens in times of waiting; we get to see and God gets to see what is in our Heart.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ways to Give: Online at vcctracy.org or text message at 209-900-8368.

Prayer Every Sunday Morning: 9:15 - 9:45am - in the Sanctuary.

Dining With The Community

Feeding the Hungry: 2nd Wednesday of every month.

Travel Size Toiletries: We are collecting these for distribution to the homeless.

New Community Group Series - *The Trust Factor - Trusting God When It Doesn't Make Sense* - Begins April 9th. This is a 6 week series.

Job Recruitment Fair: 04/29/17 - 12:00-2pm - Sign up at the Info Booth.

Women's Ministry Meeting: 05/06/17 - 12:00-2pm.

Mind, Body & Spirit with special Guest Speaker Kim Scott.
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