

# A Study on the Book of James (Session 1)

First Baptist Peddie Memorial Church

**1. Pray for wisdom from the Holy Spirit for understanding God's Word.**

**2. Read James 1:1-4 aloud several times.**

### **3. Observe**

1. Mark any words or phrases that stand out.
2. Write down any questions that arise from the text.
3. Notice that God and the Lord Jesus Christ are placed side by side (1:1). Find a few other verses in the New Testament where God and Jesus Christ occur side by side.
4. In v. 2, what does the word “when” or “whenever” (vs. “if”) tell us about trials?
5. Note the progression from “trials” to “complete” and the relationships between various words in vv. 2-4. Draw a diagram indicating these relationships.

### **4. Watch the Video Lesson on YouTube**

### **5. Interpret / Live out the Word**

1. What is your first reaction to the command “count it all joy” when you face trials?
2. Think about your own experiences going through times of trials, suffering, and pain. What have you learned from such experiences?
3. Considering that joy (*chara*) is closely related to grace (*charis*), how can we be joyful in the midst of trials?
4. Why does God sometimes allow trials, suffering, and pain?
5. Do you have some means (spiritual disciplines/exercises) to strengthen yourself for the times of trial?
6. How would you pray when you are going through such trials? Write down your prayer.
7. What is the one thing you would like to work on from the insights you gained?

### **6. Memorize**

(James 1:2 ESV or your preferred translation)

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds.