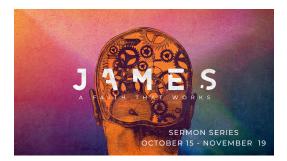
## Hope Presbyterian Church Sermon-Based Bible Study Group



# October 15, 2023

"Trials" - #1 in the series James: A Faith That Works

Texts (NLT) Referenced: James 1:1-8, 19-25; John 16:33

- 1. What stood out to you about the message?
- 2. Consider these definitions of the word *trial*:
  - a. A formal examination of evidence before a judge and/or jury
  - b. A clinical test of the performance or suitability of someone or something
  - How do these definitions inform your spiritual perspective on what it means to experience trouble - a trial?

#### 3. Read James 1: 2-4.

James' interpretation of trouble as an opportunity for "great joy" seems counterintuitive.

- How might he have arrived at that perspective?
- What do you think it means to be "perfect and complete, needing nothing" as a result of enduring trials?

## 4. Read James 1:5-7

- Why might seeking God for wisdom in the midst of a trial require being bold in our faith?
- Can you recall a situation when God showed you how to endure a troubling situation?

## 5. Read James 1:19-25.

- Why is listening so difficult when we're in the midst of a troubling situation?
- How do trials often provoke our anger and why does James caution against it?

#### 5. Read John 16:33.

- Why might Jesus have acknowledged the inevitability of trials in addressing his followers?
- 6. How can we pray for you?