

# WEEK 6 – Steadfastness Thursday - "It's Worth It"

## **BIBLE STUDY:**

James 1:2-4, James 1:12-15

### **DEVOTIONAL:**

I was a high school marching band kid. I competed in shows from Washington to Oregon, to Utah, and California. We even preformed a show at the USC stadium in California. As you can probably tell from my physique, I am not svelte in the slightest, nor physically fit. I loathed going for runs, doing physical warmups, and putting ankle weights on my legs and instrument. I would come home after practices red-faced and wiped out. Yet, when a performance came, I was physically and emotionally ready. I knew what was coming. I knew I had done the routines, warmups, and training, and I knew I could do it.

This is what James is alluding to. We need to be thankful when we go through hard times and difficult situations because we are strengthening our relationship with God. When times are easy, we lean on ourselves and may even forget God is even there.

Yet, when we have hard times, we suddenly remember that God is there, and He needs to step in. What James is saying is that we need to rejoice in the difficult times because it is forcing us to rely on God and His word, forcing us to reflect on Him and what He has done. Then, when the trial is over, we are stronger for it emotionally and spiritually, ready to take on the next difficult time, and ready to give God the glory when times are good.

Becky Weaver

#### **CHALLENGE:**

Think of a difficult season or rough time you had recently, or maybe you are currently in one. Write out what is making it difficult and find a passage in the bible or a person in the bible who went through something similar and see how they responded.

#### **PRAYER:**

Thank God for the difficult season in your life. Thank Him for being there for you and for creating in you a steadfast heart.