



02.07.2021

IS IT THIS OR IS IT THAT?

Discussion Guide

## BIG IDEA

Trials and temptations are to be expected in this life. Trials are obstacles in the road and temptations are forks in the road. Trials can be used by God to grow us. Temptations come from the devil to ruin us. Pastor Daniel uses the letter of James in the bible to teach us the importance of knowing the difference. When we are aware of what we are facing, we can learn to persevere with joy in the middle of a trial and how to stand firm against temptation.

## SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE

- James 1:1-8, 13-18
- 1 Thessalonians 5:18
- Galatians 2:20
- Romans 8:11
- 1 John 1:9
- Hebrews 12:1
- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- 1 John 4:4

## TALK IT OVER

- Share an experience when you were shaken or rattled. What was your response?
- Looking back, tell us about a time when you were strengthened by a trial.
- How would your attitude towards trials change if you decided to consider them joy?
- Why are we hesitant to ask God for help when we face trials and temptations?
- How can we learn to see God's escape hatch when we face temptations?

## APPLICATION IDEAS

Consider these application ideas when you face trials of many kinds:

- Name the trial and choose to consider it joy. Your mindset will determine what you find in the midst of the trial.
- Use the trial as God uses it to make you stronger.
- Ask for help in the middle of your trial.

## PRAYER FOCUS

At Lifepoint, we pray until something happens. Make time in every group meeting to pray for one another and the larger matters of concern to your group.

- Provide a slip of paper for each group member to write down a trial they are experiencing. Ask every group member to take one 'trial' and spend time praying over it this week.

## LEADER TIPS

- What is your 'escape plan' for temptation? Write it down and refer to it whenever you reach a fork in the road.