

MADE FOR JOY

THE POWER OF JOY

Romans 5:1-5

- 1) Trials and temptations are the normal experience of life.
- 2) It's possible for joy to flourish with pain.
- 3) What trials can and can't take from you.
- 4) Framing your story of pain through the power of joy.

MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

1. Think of some of the challenging circumstances of trials you have faced. Do you feel that your life has been defined more by pain or joy? Explain.
2. What can we learn from pain? See James 1:2-4 and Romans 5:3-5.
3. Consider the example of Jesus in Hebrews 12:2. Discuss the suffering and shame he experienced. How was joy a powerful helper to experience and overcome pain?
4. When you frame up your story with God as the main character, what are some new perspectives you find in the painful chapters?



MEMORY VERSE

Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Romans 5:3-5