

Joy & Gratefulness Despite 2020 (the Dumpster Fire)
November 29, 2020

James 1:2-6 (ESV)

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

1. “Fake It ’Til You Make It” vs. “Gospelize Until You Realize”

v2 **Count it all joy**, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds

2. “It Could Be Worse...” vs. “It WILL Be Better...”

v3-4 for you know that the **testing of your faith produces steadfastness**. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

3. “Hold Tight With All Your Might” vs. “Let Go and Let God”

v5-6 **If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God**, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. **But let him ask in faith**, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

Christ Followers: Let us Follow!
Not a checklist, but a checkup.

Colossians 3:12-13

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,

- compassionate hearts, kindness,
- humility, meekness,
- and patience,
- bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Colossians 3:14-15

And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Colossians 3:16-17

- Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
- teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,
- singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
- with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

And ***whatever you do***, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks to God the Father through him**.

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: **Give Thanks, Become Grateful.** :
: **Spread Joy, Through Faith, Despite Trials.** :
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