

Stay The Course

(James 1:12-18)

Reflect: What is one area of my life in which I need to stay the course?

3 blessings from James 1:12-18 to help us stay the course and enjoy the ride:

1.) Eternal Perspective (v.12)

“Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.” - James 1:12 ESV

“The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.” - John 10:10 NLT

2.) Testing the Truth (vv.13-16)

Temptation	Testing
a. From the Enemy (Revelation 12:9-11)	b. From God (James 1:12)
c. Designed so we stumble (Condemnation) <i>All at once he followed her like an ox going to the slaughter, like a deer stepping into a noose - Proverbs 7:22 NIV</i>	d. Designed to make us stronger (Conviction) <i>These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. - 1 Peter 1:7 NIV</i>
e. Isolates us from God and people (James 1:14)	f. Helps us love God and love people (James 1:16)
g. Provides footholds for our flesh (vv.13-14) <i>“...and do not give the devil a foothold.-Eph4:27 NIV</i>	h. Provides freedom from lies of the enemy <i>“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above...”-James1:17</i>
i. Brings death (James 1:15)	j. Brings life (v.12)

3.) Receiving God’s Call to Community (vv.17-18)

- ↑ Faith in our Good Father
- ↓ Fellowship with God’s People (Romans 16:5; 1 Corinthians 16:15)

Discussion Questions:

- 1.) Discuss how the slippery slope into moral failure described in James 1:14-15 can play out in our lives.
- 2.) Which part of the message do I most need to remember and apply this week?
- 3.) Who is a beloved brother or sister that I need to connect with to help us both stay the course?