

FEARLESS: TRUSTING GOD FOR BREAKTHROUGH

MARCH 29TH, 2020 "TESTING MY TRUST IN GOD"

[Discuss one question at a time (not by paragraph); give space for people to reflect]

Gerry gave three (3) reasons why God tests our trust in Him. What were they?

- was this first reason a new perspective for you?
- describe a test you have gone through; what did God reveal about Himself?
- (ii) _____
- (iii) _____
 - in this last reason, what is God causing us to discover re: our faith?

What are the differences between *testing* and *tempting*? who does which?

How is testing faith like building muscle?

THREE MAJOR WAYS IN WHICH GOD TESTS OUR TRUST IN HIM

- 1. God tests my trust in Him by allowing hardships into my life experience
 - what types of hardships does He allow? which have you experienced?
 - read 2 Corinthians 11:23b-28. What might you feel if this was your story?
 - read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Has God has given you a type of 'thorn'? If so, how are you experiencing His sufficient grace while dealing with it?
 - read James 1:2-4. What is the outcome God is achieving through trials? Why are we called to be joyful in facing trials?



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- 2. God tests my trust in Him by giving time for HIs purposes to unfold
 - Why might time be such a difficult but powerful test to our trust in God?
 - Is there something that you are wrestling with that is not being resolved as quickly as you had hoped?
 - Can you discern any purposes of God that may yet be unfolding? such as?
 - re-read James1:3b-4. What is the "work" of perseverance?
 - why is perseverance so necessary to this outcome?
 - In <u>DeepFaith</u>, Reimer said, "Time will reveal our true character, test our passion and refine our motives"; despite these good things, many get disappointed at "the slowness of God", take offence at Him, stop pursuing Him or engaging in the life of HIs Church. Do you wrestle with any of these responses? if so, which one(s)? if not, how have your dealt with God's perceived "slowness"?

3. God tests my trust in Him by asking for surrender & obedience to Him

- read Proverbs 3:5-6 in the NIV
- Where have you found surrendering to His will and Word to be beneficial?
- what are the implications of this passage have on your future plans?
- read Genesis 22:1-9, What stands out to you in this passage?
- have you ever wondered why Abraham did not ask God "why"?
- in your journey, when have you wrestled with "why?" did you get an answer?
- how is it helpful for you to look for "a revelation of who God is" more than find "an explanation of why something happened"?

Our bedrock trust is in the Triune God. How do the *Word* of God, the *people* of God and the promised *Kingdom* of God strengthen this foundation of our trust?