

Today's Theme:

“Does A Valley Mean A Wrong Turn?”

May 23, 2021

Series: “Urban Legends”- Part 2

“Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.” Psa. 23:4

Introduction

A Wrong Turn Or Not, You're In A Valley...

So Now What?

James 1:2-4

1. If You're Willing, Even _____ Valleys Can Add Something Special To Your Life!

James 1:2-“Consider it pure joy when trials hit...”

- **Meaning:** Not _____ pure joy, But: you have a rare opportunity to stop & see the valley you're in... bringing fresh eyes w/ God's power & help!

James 1:3-“When faith is tested- _____ grows”

- **Meaning:** Untested faith in Jesus won't stay that way for long! Valleys of testing build _____ & perseverance in you like nothing else.

James 1:4-“So, don't waste the valley experience getting angry/sad- let it give your faith _____!”

- **Meaning:** Like a spiritual athlete, let the resistance you're living with build spiritual _____ - we call it righteousness... so your life will keep loving others for Jesus no matter what.

So, How Do We Respond If Every Valley Is Not A Wrong Turn?

Ask Three Important Questions:

1. Why Am I _____?

- _____ sent me here! Exodus 14:1-31
- I _____ up! 2 Sam.11-12
- No _____ how I got here! Job 2:10

2. How Should I _____?

- The enemy will offer a _____ Don't take it! Matt.4:1-11; 1 Pet.2:11; 1 Cor.10:13
- If it's self-inflicted- _____ the consequences!
- If it's a God-given assignment- hang tough, _____.
- No matter how you got there- the way out will always include:
 1. *Doing the _____ thing.*
 2. *Telling the _____.*
 3. *Keeping my _____.*
 4. *Maintaining your _____ for others.*
 5. *Keep your concern for God's _____.*

3. What Can I _____?

- There are always _____ to be learned.
- Even a bad thing can be a _____ thing!