

Enduring the "Winter"

How to overcome trials in your life.

What are some examples of trials?

1. sickness
2. loss of loved one
3. lose job
4. struggles in relationships
5. money situation

Reasons we have trials:

1. **FAITH**
Purify and strengthen our faith for His glory
1 Peter 1:6-8; John 9: 1-3
2. **PATIENCE**
Develop patience
James 1:2-4
3. **OBEDIENCE**
Teach us to obey God's Word
Psalm 119:71-72
4. **DISCIPLINE**
Discipline by God because He loves us Hebrews 12:5-6
To promote sanctification (holiness) Hebrews 12:10-11
To teach important lessons Deuteronomy 8:2-5
5. **HUMILITY**
Sometimes we don't know why we have trials. It makes us realize who we are before God.
Romans 11:33-36
6. **RELIANCE ON GOD**
Learn to rely more on God
2 Corinthians 1:8-9

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Examples of trials and how they were overcome:

1. Job lost **everything** but he didn't get angry at God. He accepted it by faith and **worshipped** Him.
Job 1:20-22
2. Paul and Silas **sang praises** while suffering.
Acts 16:16-25
3. King Hezekiah praised God for **discipline**.
Isaiah 38:17-19
4. The Church of Laodicea was lukewarm and needed to **repent**.
Revelation 3:14-20
5. Paul was given a thorn in the flesh to keep him **humble**, teach God's grace is **sufficient**, strength comes in **Christ**, and to rely on **God**.
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Additional Ways to overcome trials:

REMEMBER:

1. **PROMISES**
Remember promise of Romans 8:28-29 and 1 Corinthians 10:13
2. **BLESSINGS**
God blesses those who persevere under trials
James 1:12, Romans 8:18
3. **PRAYER**
God will deliver us
Psalm 50:15
4. **GOD'S PROTECTION**
Experience God's protective care, and even through tears sing praises to God
Psalm 27: 5-6

No temptation that Jesus allows is an excuse to sin or continue in sin. It is an opportunity to witness to those around you, see God answer prayer, and witness His power. It also strengthens our relationship with God and other believers. Seek God's Word for directions on answers and how to handle problem/trial. Don't forget to PRAY!