

## Surprised by Joy.

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“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”

James 1:2-4 NKJV

“Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So, let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.”

James 1:2-4 NLT

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

James 1:2-4 NIV

### **1. We can't choose our season, but we can choose our spirit.**

“As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night.””

Genesis 8:22 NLT

“For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1 NLT

## **2. Testing and trials lead to a testimony.**

“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.””

John 16:33 NKJV

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.”

Revelation 12:11 NKJV

## **3. Little by little eventually becomes a lot.**

“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”

Galatians 6:9 NKJV

“Another story. “God’s kingdom is like yeast that a woman works into the dough for dozens of loaves of barley bread—and waits while the dough rises.””

Matthew 13:33 MSG

## **4. Don’t bypass the process.**

“So, let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.”

James 1:2-4 NLT

“being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;”

Philippians 1:6 NKJV