**10/6/24 When the Physical Storms Come! James 1:1-4**

* When storms come in our lives, we must prepare both physically and spiritually.
* The conveniences that we have grown use to tend to be costly.
* The book of James addresses real life issues, and we should have a faith that works.
* We are generally in one of the three phases of a storm in our lives.

**1. Heading into a storm.**

* Troubles in our life generally bring about spiritual storms as well.
* The Jewish Christians fled to other nations because of mounting persecution.
* James tells us that we should be joyful when troubles come our way.
* Paul tells us not to worry about anything, but pray about everything.

**James 1:1-2; Philippians 4:6-7**

**2. In a storm.**

* We have a chance to grow, when our faith is being tested.
* The greatest enemy of answered prayer is doubt.
* Problems are no respecter of persons.
* Paul tells us to glory in tribulations because they bring about patience, experience and hope.

**James 1:3; Romans 5:3-4**

**3. Just coming out of a storm.**

* Trials and tribulations must not be looked upon as hindrances to our faith, but as opportunities to exercise a healthy faith.
* For the mature Christian, happiness comes from enduring trials by letting them fulfill God’s purpose in our lives.
* We must desire and value character over comfort.
* Our trials make us partners with Christ in His suffering.
* Problems cause us to refocus on what is really important.

**James 1:4,12; 1 Peter 4:12-13; Proverbs 4:7**