Questions for Reflection and Discussion

When Trials Come

Getting Started

What's the most difficult trial you experienced last year? Name one thing that helped you cope with this trial.

Digging In

1. When going through trials, it is vital to remind ourselves of who God is and what he's done for us. How does **Eph 2:1-10** help in this regard?

2. **Read Rom 5:1-5.** Rejoice in our sufferings? Really? Why are we to do that?
3. How does James bring out this same idea in James 1:2-4?
4. What do these passages imply about our values? In other words, in order for us to benefit from what these passages are saying, what will we need to value above our own ease and comfort?
5. **Read Matt 6:25-34**. How can this passage help us to choose trust over worry?
6. How can **Phil 4:6-9** help us to experience God's peace during times of difficulty?
7. One of the great promises of the Bible is found in **Heb 13:5**, an echo of God's promise to Joshua in **Josh 1:5**, and Moses' assurance to Israel in **Deut 31:6,8**. How can the promise of God's presence help us to endure trials?

Getting Personal

- Are you going through a difficult trial right now?
- How can knowing God's purposes and remembering his promises help you persevere with joy?
- How can the assurance of God's loving, empowering presence help you persevere?
- What other biblical truths have helped you to weather the storms of life?
- What steps can you take now to prepare for the storms that will come?

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