

SCRIPTURE: James 1:1-4

- BELONG Remember, this section isn't filler, but a genuine time to slow down and assess how people are doing in their
 personal and spiritual lives. Feel free to change the questions, but the point is to truly sit in this moment to allow time and
 space for encouraging spiritual connectivity.
 - A. How would you tell the story of your 2021?
 - How has the Lord worked in your life this past year or proven Himself faithful?
 - How have you grown spiritually?
 - B. Heading into 2022, what obstacles or problems do you find yourself wrestling with?
 - C. What resolutions, if any, have you made for 2022?
 - D. With this conversation in mind, spend some time praying for one another.
- 2. DISCOVER Read James 1:1-4 together. Remember, this is meant to be a dialogue not a monologue. Being a Life Group leader doesn't mean you have to be a subject matter expert. It simply means that you are the lead learner. Discover the Word together. Be an active listener as people respond to the text; ask them follow up questions. Help the group think through what they're saying and how it applies to them spiritually.
 - A. Thinking back to Brad's message on this passage, what points or illustrations come to mind?
 - B. Given the context of this chapter and book, how would you summarize the primary theme of this section of scripture?
 - C. What truth(s) does this passage teach us about the character of **God**?
 - Can you think of any other passages in scripture that support this truth?
 - D. What truth(s) does this passage teach us about the character of **mankind**?
 - Can you think of any other passages in scripture that support this truth?
 - E. How do the truth(s) communicated in this passage apply to each of us as followers of Jesus?
- 3. GO Take time to apply the text. We are stewards of the learnings from the Word. Once we hear truth, we are called to live it out. If our groups just sit and talk about information, they won't experience transformation. This section is about keeping one another accountable for living out what we're learning.
 - A. How does this passage impact the way you look at trial and trouble in your life? What are some practical ways you find joy during a trial?
 - B. How would you describe that message to someone who hasn't read James? Who will you share that message with?
 - C. Take a few moments in your personal time with God this week, to write out the challenges and trials ahead in 2022. Then journal out some ways the Lord might use those things to build endurance and faith within you.
- **4. PRAY -** Petition the Lord together as you close out your group with outward focused prayer. How might the truths in these scriptures impact the way you live and make a spiritual difference in the lives of others?
 - A. Pray, by name, for those in your member's sphere of influence, who are going through a season of trial.
 - B. Ask the Lord for opportunities to encourage someone in need this week. When that opportunity comes, speak and act.