

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

10/22/12 - Choosing Joy Above Comfort

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James 1:1-8

James isn't suggesting we pretend things don't hurt or that the struggles in life aren't real. This recognizes that God never commands our emotions. He only commands our will. So James encourages us to focus on the big picture and make a moral choice about our attitude rather than to be controlled by our emotions.

We do this in other areas. Softball players routinely sacrifice their bodies sliding into home or diving for a fly ball. They wear their scrapes and bruises with pride, along with the smell of Bengay. Many times we sweat through the heat of the day and fight fatigue in order to finish a project or task.

James is simply saying that if life were easy, we wouldn't need a wonderful Savior or the power of the Holy Spirit. However, believers have the privilege of receiving Great Grace for times when the trials of life get tough. That's worth sacrificing for!