How God Builds Our Faith

James 1:2-4

God <u>BUILDS</u> our faith by <u>TESTING</u> it.

TODAY, we'll see FOUR WAYS God <u>TESTS</u> our Faith.

Maybe you've Endured these Tests already...but did you PASS the Test?

1. GOD TESTS OUR FAITH THROUGH DIFFICULTIES

- If you're a <u>Child</u> of God <u>Nothing</u> comes into your life without God's <u>Say-So</u>. (1 Peter 1:6-7)
- What is the *Furnace of <u>Affliction</u>*? (Isaiah 48:10)
- The *Furnace* of a refiner's fire *HEATS* up *Gold & Silver* so *Impurities* are Burned Away.

2. GOD TESTS OUR FAITH THROUGH DEMANDS.

- Every time God gives a <u>Demand</u>, the <u>TEST</u> is...Am I going to Trust what <u>GOD</u> says is <u>Right</u>?
- <u>OR</u> am I going to trust MY <u>OWN</u> <u>Opinion</u>...what's right in my <u>OWN Eyes</u>?
- Faith is often a RISK. (Hebrews 11:8)
- When God <u>SAYS it</u>, I'm to <u>DO</u> it...Understand it or NOT.

3. GOD TESTS OUR FAITH WITH DOLLARS.

- Money is one of the <u>Greatest Tests</u> of faith in your life.
- There's a *Definite*, *Direct <u>Connection</u> between how I <u>Handle</u> my <u>Money</u> & my <u>Spiritual</u> <u>Life</u>. (Luke 16:11)*
- If I want to <u>GROW</u> In Faith, I must learn to **REJOICE Continually...OBEY Immediately...** and **GIVE Generously.**

4. GOD TESTS OUR FAITH THROUGH DELAYS.

- We *Hate* to *Wait*...Yet a large portion of life is <u>spent</u> *Waiting* for stuff that really <u>matters</u>!
- You need to <u>Know</u> that <u>While</u> you're waiting <u>GOD</u> is <u>There</u>.
- Rarely will God <u>Snap</u> His fingers & give <u>Instant</u> Answers to every prayer because He wants you to <u>GROW</u> in faith.
- God's *Encouragement* to you again & again in the Bible is... Don't Give up.
- Are you Willing to pray the Dangerous Prayer, "Lord, Increase my faith?"