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**Sermon Title: *“****Living Hope Amidst The Trials of Life”*

**Scripture:** 1 Peter 1:6-9

Director of Youth Ministries, Matt Vohwinkel / Sunday, February 27, 2022

Point 1

We can rejoice because our ability to rejoice does not negate our ability to grieve

(1Pet 1:6, Matt 5:4)

Point 2

We can rejoice because we know our trials are never without purpose

(1Pet 1:6-7, Jas 1:2-4, Rom 5:3-5

Point 2a

Trials are the means God uses to mature us.

Point 2b

While our trials are not original to His design, they are now used for His purpose

Point 3

We can rejoice in our trials knowing that our refinement results in our blessing

(1Pet 1:8-9, Matt 25:14-45, 1Cor 3:10-15, Jn 10:10, Matt 28:20, Ps 23:4, Phil 4:6-7, Rom 8:28, Jn 15:5)

Questions to consider

What are some specific ways you have seen God use your past trials to grow you personally?

How does better understanding God’s purpose for our trials impact you personally?

How might meditating on these realities impact our level of joy/ability to rejoice as we experience trials?

How does a biblical understanding of trials impact how we minister to others as they experience trials?

How does God’s allowance for grief impact our approach to it as it relates to our own grieving, as well as the grieving of others?