**“When All you have is God’s Love”**

James 1:1-12

*“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.” (1:12)*

**INTRO:**

**Two Essentials of Divine Love**

1. **GOD’S LOVE IS INCARNATIONAL.**

“James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings.” (1:1)

* God Humbled Himself
* God provides supernatural help
* Get God’s perspective on life
1. **GOD’S LOVE IS INTERDEPENDENT**.
* God’s Will in Adversity = **Joyful Endurance**

***2****Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds,****3****because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.****4****Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. (1:2-4)*

**Attitude**: Accept you circumstances with joy

* God’s Promise in the Process = **Supernatural Wisdom**

***5****If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.*

***6****But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.****7****That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.****8****Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.*

**Asking:** Ask in faith without doubting

* God’s Prescription for Perseverance = **Divine Perspective**

***9****Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position.****10****But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower.****11****For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.*

***12****Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.*

**Activity:** Act in love always

**Three Insights to Remember**

1. Get God’s Perspective on our circumstances
* How? By looking at our circumstances through the eyes of **faith.**

 **2.** Get God’s Perspective on our future

* How? By looking at our future through the lens of **hope.**

 **3.** Get God’s perspective on our motivation

* How? By looking at our motivation through the eyes of **love.**