

"Joy vs. Worldly Sorrow"

James 1:1-8

6/15/14

Every trial brings us to a _____.

Either we welcome it and use it for God's glory, or we turn away from the opportunity, and thus from the Lord.

A. The Problem

- "Acedia" – Apathy; to stop caring, to be indifferent, despondent ("to give up or to abandon")
- "Worldly _____" --over time sorrow left alone "turns"--it goes bad
- We stop making the _____ of faith
- Spiritual _____--disinclination to pursue the means of grace
- The sorrow comes to control us; it becomes our identity.
- We enter "the prison-house of a _____ self-involvement"
~Jackson Bate
- Acedia is a failure of spiritual _____

B. Rx

Stay _____

1. _____ Yourself. "Startled into self-forgetfulness, I again tasted joy"
~Lewis
2. Pray--"We must _____ pray and not lose heart."
~Luke 18:1

3. Trust and _____

- a. Stand in the place where you live
- b. True spirituality is down to earth
- c. Vs. "all or nothing." Eternal drama is in the _____.
- d. Feel all you can, but make feelings the caboose
- e. Begin to _____--"Favorable conditions never come."
- f. Do the next thing
- "Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey."
~Genesis 22:3
- g. Travel with loved ones--we are not meant to travel _____

C. CTK

- Fix your eyes on Jesus
- He entered the _____ for us
- "He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure."
~Psalm 40:2
- "Winter gone and sins forgiven"
- When sorrows come— and they will--keep fixing, keep casting, keep turning and re-turning to Jesus. "In his presence is fullness of joy"
~Psalm 16:11