

“LIVING EXPECTANTLY”

Introduction: The Law of _____.

Matthew 9:29 (NLT) “Because of your faith, it will happen.”

- We tend to _____ things we expect to see.

Hebrews 11:6 (TEV) “No one can please God without faith.”

- Our heavenly Father is pleased when we _____ Him.

Luke 17:5 (NLT) “The apostles said to the Lord, ‘Show us how to increase our faith!’”

- God increases our faith by _____.

James 1:3-4 (NLT) “For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.”

Job 7: 17-18 (TEV) “Why is man so important to you? Why pay attention to what he does? You inspect him every morning and test him every minute.”

- The problem: We don't _____ the tests.

THREE WAYS GOD TESTS OUR FAITH

1. GOD TESTS OUR FAITH THROUGH _____.

I Peter 1: 6-7 (NLT) “⁶ So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. ⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.”

- Nothing happens by _____.

Isaiah 48:10 (NIV) “ I have refined you, though not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.”

- When the heat is on.... “This is a _____ !”

James 1:2 (NIV) “Consider it pure joy whenever you face trials...”

Lesson 1: I must learn to _____ continually.

2. GOD TESTS OUR FAITH THROUGH _____.

Exodus 16:4 (TEV) "The people must go out everyday and gather enough for that day. In this way I can test them to find out if they will follow my instruction."

- In the New Testament there are _____ commands to obey.

Hebrews 11:8 (NLT) "It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land..."

Hebrews 11:7 (NLT) "It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood."

Lesson 2: I must learn to _____ immediately.

3. GOD TESTS OUR FAITH THROUGH _____.

Deuteronomy 8:2 (TEV) "Remember how the Lord your God led you on this long journey through the desert these past forty years, sending hardships to test you so that He might know what you intended to do and whether you would obey His commands."

- The children of Israel waited _____ years!
- Today children of God ask the _____ question.

Isaiah 64:4 (NIV) "Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides You, who acts on behalf of those who wait for Him."

Lesson 3: I MUST LEARN TO _____ PATIENTLY.

CONCLUSION: Bonus test!

GOD TESTS OUR FAITH THROUGH _____.

II Corinthians 8:7-8 (NIV) "Excel in the grace of giving.... I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others."

- You have a good example: _____