

*The Way We Could Be*  
Facing Trials with Joy  
James 1:1-4

A New Series (video)

~ Let's dream together of: The Way We Could Be

I. Some Introductions ~ From and To (vs. 1)

II. The Imperative ~ Count it All Joy (vs. 2)

III. What We Could Be ~ Complete / Mature (vs. 3-4)

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**Points to Ponder:** James is calling us not to understand all of our circumstances, but he is asking us to apply what we know of our God to trials we face. If we think the same way about our trials as those who do not know Jesus then we will be largely blind to what God is doing in and through us. Take a look at the text of 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. What trial did Paul know? What was his natural desire? What did God do in and through that trial? Did God accomplish this by taking the trial from him or growing him through it? If we can know that God is growing us – then we can face trials with joy.

**A Note to Parents:** Please know that the children and youth who leave the service during the sermon are looking at the same passage we are considering. We hope that you will initiate a conversation with them about this portion of God's Word.

**Next Week:** Next week we will continue our sermon series entitled: *The Way We Could Be* by looking at **James 1:5-8 Seeking Wisdom with Asking.**

