



## TALK IT OVER

Faith 101

### BOTTOM LINE

God uses tests to develop your character and strengthen your faith.

### CONVERSATION STARTER

In school or work, have you had test anxiety? How do you deal with it? Do you like oral tests, essay tests, multiple choice, or fill-in-the-blank tests best? Why?

### THINGS TO CONSIDER

*What did you hear?*

*What do you think?*

*What will you do?*

### RESOURCES

- The Daily: [newpointeorg/daily](https://newpointeorg.com/daily)
- Two minutes with Dr. Stanley on [how God tests us](https://newpointeorg.com/how-god-tests-us).

### KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

*Without faith it is impossible to please God.* Hebrews 11:6 NIV

*The testing of your faith develops perseverance.... so that you may be mature and complete.* James 1:3-4 NIV

*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.* 1 Peter 1:7 NLT

“We inevitably accomplish what we expect we’re going to accomplish. God says you get to choose.” – Dwight Mason

“According to your faith it will be done to you.” Matthew 9:29 AMP

“Life is a test, a temporary assignment, and a trust.” – Dwight Mason

### TALK IT OVER

Do you really believe you get what you expect? Why or why not? How/why is it impossible to please God without faith? Many people give up and quit when they have tests and trials. What makes the difference between people who grow in struggle and those who cave? Read and discuss James 1:3 and 1 Peter 1:7. How do we cooperate with God to develop pure-gold faith? How do we know if a test is from God or Satan? Does it matter? The four common tests of our faith are the pressure test (stress), the people test (disappointment), the priority test (What will be first?). Where are you being tested? What are you and God learning?

### ACTION STEPS (This or one of your own)

Because I choose to trust God and believe that God is growing my faith through my testing, I will rejoice and refuse to complain. I will obey what God tells me, and use the Word of God to encourage me, especially this verse: \_\_\_\_\_

My Action Step: \_\_\_\_\_