**“Passing the Test”**

3-Fold Purpose: ***Love God, Love Others, Serve the World***

One Mission: ***Make Disciples***

4 Commitments:

***Shaped by the Word***

1. What was your biggest take-away from Sunday’s sermon?
2. Relate a personal story of a trial or testing you experienced. What did God teach you through this experience? Did you feel like you “passed the test”?
3. Read James 1:2-18.
   1. Why does James have such a positive outlook when it comes to trials and temptations?
   2. What are some of the specific things to be gained from adversity according to this passage?

***Surrendered to His Will***

1. Reread vv. 12-18.
   1. What does it mean to ‘remain steadfast under trial’ (v. 12)?
   2. How should v. 17 affect our understanding of the difficulties God allows into our lives?
   3. James 1:18 in *The Message* states: “He brought us to life using the true Word, showing us off as the crown of all his creatures.” Considering this as the outcome of trials and temptation, how should your attitude be effected?

***Connected to His Spirit***

1. Reread vv. 5-8. Remember when reading these verses that when Solomon was offered from God anything he wanted, he chose wisdom.
   1. What is God’s part and our part in these verses?
   2. Do you struggle with doubt/lack of faith? Discuss.
   3. What does doubt suggest about your view of God?
   4. From whom do we receive the gift of faith? What does this suggest about our need for communion with the Spirit of God?

***Building His Kingdom***

1. Much of the process of discipleship has to do with passing on your ‘spiritual DNA’ to another person not as far along in their faith journey.
   1. If you could choose three positive character traits to pass on to another person, what would they be and why?
   2. When you consider the fact that our hardships produce character for another person’s benefit (not just our own), how does this impact your perspective?
   3. What are the character traits that are lacking in your life? List them in the blanks provided, and spend time praying for each other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Scripture Memory

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.* Romans 12:12 (ESV)