

# BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO PERSEVERES UNDER TRIAL...

JAMES 1:12



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## Persevere

"Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."

There is a distinct advantage to the Christian faith, one that surpasses secular thinking altogether. It elevates the priority of Scripture and enables a man to reflect upon the blessing James describes as something tangible and worth seeking after. It is counter-cultural, but that is absolutely what James intended to convey when he penned these words.

Living opposite of culture is not an easy task as there are significant risks today for living a public Christian faith. Yet it is our privilege to endure even persecution as a trial that defines and edifies our faith, rather than shakes it or causes us to grow lukewarm and indifferent concerning truth.

Moreover, the trials we face fall under God's sovereign authority, so we could almost read

## Upcoming Events

January 12th 11AM

**Seniors Luncheon**

January 13th

**Missions Yard Sale - Day-Storms**

**Residence**

January 14th-17th

**Spiritual Emphasis Week**

January 20th-8am

**Girls Ministries Yard Sale - Jones/Viera**

**Residence**

January 20th @ Florida First Assembly,

Wauchula

**JBQ Match**

January 21st After 11am Service

**Fun Arts Informational Meeting**

January 26th and 27th

**Girls Ministries Refuel Conference**

January 29th 6:30PM

**Sectional Men's Rally**

February 6th 7PM

**Women's Ministry Coffee and Chocolate**

February 13th 7PM

**Department Head Meeting**

**Harvest Kids 21 Day Fast**

James' admonition as, "Blessed are those who remain under the sovereign authority of God." It is easier for my heart to accept this terminology than "trials" because it reassures me that no matter what I face (trials included), God knows all and is in full control at all times. Therefore I can release all fear and anxiety over the unknown because His love promises me that He has the best in store for me...and that does not presuppose my life will be roses. It may be His will that more thorns than blooms represent my life here on earth, but that is temporary because the eternal crown of life (my salvation in Christ) enables me to endure whatever fiery trials come my way, and that is the true blessing of God.

# 21 DAY FAST

**Starting Sunday, January 7th**

We would love for all of our families to join us in the 21 day Fast! For more information contact Pastor Sydney

## **Harvest Giving App**

**For IOS and Android Phones**

**We are happy to announce that we have a quick and secure tool that is available to us now for Giving. All you need to do is go to your App store on your phone and type in Harvest Assembly of God Lakeland, and download it for free right to your smart phone.**

## **Seniors Luncheon**



**Friday, January 12th at 11AM**

We would love to invite our amazing Senior Adults to our first Seniors lunch of 2018. The luncheon will be in the youth building. We encourage you to bring a friend to enjoy this time with. Please bring a covered dish to share. For more information please contact Fred or Nora Connell.

## **Girls Ministries Refuel Conference**



**Friday, January 26th through  
Saturday, January 27th**

**This conference is for Girls Ministries Sponsors and Helpers. It will be at Masterpiece Gardens in Lake Wales and the cost is \$68, which includes lodging and**

## **Spiritual Emphasis Week**

food. Please contact Krystal Elliott at [krystal@harvestassembly.org](mailto:krystal@harvestassembly.org), if you are interested in attending.

## Sectional Mens Rally



**Monday, January 29th 6:30PM**

All of our HARvest Men are invited to attend this months Mens Rally. It will be held at Central Assembly of God in Auburndale. Dinner will be served at 6:30 with the service to follow. This months guest speaker will be Dr. Bill Hackett from Southeastern University.

## Service Times

Saturday

7pm Adult Worship

7 pm Embrace Children's Church

Sunday

9 am Early Morning Worship

9 am Christian Education

11 am Mid Morning Worship

11 am Harvest Kids Church

11 am Special Needs Church

6 pm Evening Worship

6 pm Student Ministries

Wednesday

7 pm Adult Worship

7 pm Girls Ministries and Royal Rangers

We look forward to seeing you!

Harvest Assembly Of God



**Sunday, January 14th**

**through**

**Wednesday, January 17th**

We are kicking off the new year with our Spiritual Emphasis Week. We will have services each night, Sunday at 6pm and Monday through Wednesday at 7 pm. The guest speaker will be Johnny Jernigan. We encourage you and your family to come as we seek God for His will this year. Childcare will be available for each service for the nursery and preschool age kids. Also, dinner will be served on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. **The Special Events Team will be having dinners for purchase on Monday through Wednesday of Spiritual Emphasis Week. So grab your family and come eat dinner then go straight to Service.**

**Fun Arts Informational**

## Meeting



**Sunday, January 21st  
after 11 AM Service**

If you have a kid that is in 2nd through 5th grade that loves to sing, dance or just wants to develop their gifts, then this meeting is for you. The meeting will be held in the Conference Room and will be quick and informative. For more information about Fun Arts contact Pastor Sydney at [Smorrow@harvestassembly.org](mailto:Smorrow@harvestassembly.org)

## Quick Links

[Facebook Page](#)

[Church Website:](#)