

Ignite Week #3 Lesson

Scripture: Psalm 22:1 & Matthew 27:44-46

Chapter Three: *Praying for Endurance Through Testing*

Pages: 44 -57

Group Questions:

- How often are you tested? (By God, life, or people)

- During one of Jesus' most trying moments, He quotes this Scripture from Psalm 22.
- Jesus shows us that no one is exempt from being tested and feeling forsaken.
- If Jesus can be tested to the point of it almost breaking Him, how much more can we expect to be tested as well?
- We also learn here from Jesus that even though you are tested it does not diminish your relationship with God the Father.
- Your testing by God is done to grow you and not designed to break you.
- What action steps do you take to survive your test(s)?

- In what ways have you grown spiritually from being tested by God?

- Read James 1:1-8

Group Question:

- What is the longest amount of time you have spent praying in one setting?

- James speaks of endurance and testing of your faith as if they go hand and hand.
- When we are tested it is so we can grow in our faith and in our endurance through God.
- Professional athletes know about endurance. They use endurance as a way to win.
- There is very little difference in our need for endurance to pray in the Spirit and the endurance that an athlete needs to finish the game and win.
- The enemy wants us to have a short prayer life or one with little to no endurance so that at the very first sign of trouble or hardship we will quit.
- James lets us know that we shouldn't quit when it comes to facing tests or trials because if we keep going, our testing will be complete and we will lack nothing.
- We should consider it all joy, understanding that our current test will be the reason for our future victory in Jesus.
- How can prayer help you to have greater endurance during your times of testing?

Suggested Group Activities For This Week:

- Work to pray longer this week, even if it is just by a few minutes. Push yourself to endure in prayer for a longer period of time.
- Create a time for your group to go on a prayer walk through the community to pray for the community and also to extend the amount of time you pray together as a group.
- Make a list of prayer requests from members of the group and commit to praying for each of those requests throughout the week.

