

**My Struggles Are About Him  
(Your Pain has a Purpose)**

**There are some things we learn best by doing;  
That is by active participation**

- **Mastering a skill (ice skating, driving)**
- **An event (Grand Canyon, Rollercoasters)**

**In a similar way God calls us to actively experience Him  
through struggles or difficult experiences which He brings or  
allows in our lives.**

- **God makes us trust Him and changes us to be like  
Christ. James 1:2-4, II Cor. 12:7-10**
- **God displays His glory and power through us and points  
others to Christ. John 9:1-3**

**My Turn**

- 1. What are some struggles or difficult experiences you  
wrestle with TODAY? How might God be using them in  
your life?**
- 2. How do you usually respond to these situations? How do  
you think God wants you to respond?**
- 3. What do you think Job meant by “I have heard of You  
by the hearing of the ear but now my eye sees You?” Job  
42:5**

**On My Own**

**As you spend time in God’s word this week look up these  
verses – what do they say to you about your life?  
Proverbs 3:11-12    Romans 8:28    Jeremiah 29:11**

## **Additional Notes:**

### **James**

- **Attitude must be right**
- **Trials – tempering metal = improve quality, purify; perseverance is lasting**
- **They will come not if**
- **Perfect/complete = not sinless but spiritually mature; trusting God with a stable, godly and righteous character**

### **Regarding question Two in “your turn”**

- **Joy because it’s a learning opportunity for our benefit**
- **God’s plan for us is good not evil**
- **Teachable spirit/humility**
- **Examples: pruning and surgery**