

# Y<sup>U</sup>NIQUE DISCIPLES

## Part 1 – God's Gift of Transformation



James 1:1-4

# James 1:1 MSG

I, James, am a slave of God and  
the Master Jesus, writing to the  
twelve tribes scattered  
throughout the world: Hello!

# James 1:2

**Consider it a sheer gift, friends,  
when tests and challenges come  
at you from all sides.**

# James 1:3

**You know that under pressure,  
your faith-life is forced into the  
open and shows its true colors.**

# James 1:4a

So don't try to get out of anything prematurely.

# James 1:4b

Let it do its work so you become  
mature and well-developed, not  
deficient in any way.

# Transformation

## Definition

**A profound change in form from one stage to the next in the life history of an organism**

# **A Transformation by the Holy Spirit**

## **Definition;**

**“A profound and permanent change in an aspect of one’s character and/or heart, from ‘fleshiness’ into Christlikeness”**

# Principle #1

**God's transformative works in us  
are a Life-Long Process**

**It took years to form all of the  
different layers of who and what  
we are... and not all of those  
layers are a part of God's Perfect  
Will for us or our lives.**



## **2 Corinthians 3:18b**

**And the Lord—who is the Spirit—  
makes us more and more like him  
as we are changed into his  
glorious image.**

## Principle #2

**God selects specific times, seasons, and circumstances to address and heal the things inside of us that need Transformation**

# James 1:2

**Consider it a sheer gift, friends,  
when tests and challenges come  
at you from all sides.**

## Principle #3

God's goal is genuine, profound  
spiritual transformation not  
powerless imitation.

# James 1:3

**You know that under pressure,  
your faith-life is forced into the  
open and shows its true colors.**

## Principle #4

**God's transformation is on the other side of the challenge, difficulty, pain, or trial.**

# James 1:4a

So don't try to get out of anything prematurely.

# James 1:4b

Let it do its work so you become  
mature and well-developed, not  
deficient in any way.

# Principle #5

**God's transformation requires  
our co-operation and our  
surrender.**



# Principle #6

**God's transformative work in us is a result of His unconditional love for us.**

# Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

## **Right Now....**

**You may have a bunch of overwhelming issues that are making it difficult to keep your head above water.**

**You may be thinking that everything seems to be stacked against you.**

## **Right Now....**

**You may feel defeated.**

**You may feel like giving up.**

**You may think that God just doesn't want to give you a break.**

**You may believe that you're destined to live a much harder life compared to most.**

**But the reality is that God is in the process of providing you opportunities for transformation. God does that, because He cares more about your character and your heart than your comfort, your job, or anything else you value.**

**The Lord cares about your character and your heart more than anything else, because He knows that you will be taking your character and your heart into eternity, not your job, not your things, and not your achievements.**

## Principle #7

**God allows the challenges and difficulties you are facing today, because if you allow Him, He will lead you through the messy and unrefined parts of your character and your heart.**

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