

# Different

## Different Faith In Trials

### LifeNotes

## TALK IT OVER

### Main Idea

We are called to display a different faith in trials.

### Key Scriptures

*This letter is from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ. I am writing to God's chosen people who are living as foreigners in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. 1 Peter 1:1*

*So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. 1 Peter 1:6-7*

***As followers of Jesus, we are to live and act DIFFERENT.***

### Types of faith that will fail you:

- Inherited faith – a cultural, impersonal Christianity.
- Shallow faith – Jesus is simply your “buddy” Christ.
- Conditional faith – your faith is as deep as your next disappointment.

***A genuine faith is a tested faith.***

### Start talking.

- In what ways have Christians become less different than the world around them? Why?
- Who are some folks that appear to have a different faith? A more profound faith than most?
- What are some common traits of those people?

### Start thinking.

- Read 1 Peter 1:1. Why should it matter that as followers of Jesus we are a “chosen people”?
- The phrase, “living as foreigners” is translated from the Greek word, *parepidemos*. It means “one who comes from a foreign country into a city or land to reside there alongside of the natives.” How does that definition inform you as a Christian?
- How does current culture support or detract from our calling to be different?

### Start sharing.

- Read 1 Peter 1:6-7. Describe a time when a trial revealed your faith.
- What kind of faith did it reveal: inherited faith, shallow faith, conditional faith, or genuine faith?
- Pastor Joel shared the story of his Nana's genuine faith in the midst of trials. Through every difficulty there were two constants in her life...Jesus and His Word. How does leaning into both help us through our trials?

### Start doing.

- We begin to defuse the overwhelming nature of our trials when we speak them out and share them with others. What is the trial you are currently going through?
- Commit to a Bible reading plan. Follow this link: <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans> and choose a plan that speaks to your current situation.
- Join Harbor Church as we read through 1 Peter. This week we invite you to read 1 Peter 1:1-25.

### Closing prayer.

Jesus, you remind us over and over in your Word that you are always with us. You tell us not to fear and you draw us close into your Presence. You're the only place we find refuge in the storms that surround us right now Lord. You're the only place we can find peace and strength. So we ask you for your words of truth and power to strengthen us in our inner being and link our hearts to you. Help us to lean into your presence and into the power of your Word. Thank you for your goodness and we look to you today our Lord and Savior, it's your face we seek.