



MOVEMENT

Week 1

BREAKING THE ICE

What is your favorite fall activity and why?

How did you serve this past weekend with Serve the City? What was the most fun and what did you learn about where you served?

MAIN CONTENT

This week, Pastor Kevin kicked off our new series called "Movement". In this series we will be reading through the New Testament book of James together as a church.

To get our series started, Pastor Kevin talked about remembering what God did in our past. How He has helped us through a trial, a battle or an injustice. He gave the example of setting a stone in remembrance of what God did to get us through those times. He said, "One of the ways we stir up faith in present trials is remembering God's faithfulness in past."

1. Where do you need to remember God's past faithfulness?

James was a bit of a skeptic until the resurrection. But Jesus still loved Him and continued to seek after him. He wanted James to know nothing can keep you from God's love.

James also knew we would have trials, so he started the book of James encouraging us to keep moving, with the hope that in these movements others will come to know Christ.

2. What kind of movements have you been a part of? How did they affect your life?

Read James 1:1-8

3. What kind of trials have you been going through? Where do you see perseverance and God within the trials?

4. How have the trials you have faced moved you closer or further away from God?

James talks about the trials and tests we will go through. These aren't meant to harm us, but rather to help us grow and continue to learn. When God allows us to be tested, He is always present with us through His Holy Spirit guiding us.

Read John 16:33

God promises us three things in this verse: peace, trials and that He overcomes.

The first thing we can learn when we go through a trial is to keep going. When our faith is tested we learn perseverance, to keep moving. Perseverance is a team sport.

5. Who has been on your team to help you persevere during trials? How did they help you?

The second thing we can do as we are going through a trial is to keep growing. James talks about us becoming mature and complete through our perseverance. The trials in life mature us and refine our faith. The goal is not perfection but to be constantly refined to be more like Jesus so others can see Him through us.

6. How have you seen God refine you in your life? How have you seen that refinement help you become more like Jesus?

The last thing we can learn as we are going through a trial is to keep seeking to know Christ - keep knowing who He is. When we know Him and spend time in His presence He brings us joy.

7. What does it mean for you to know Jesus in your life? How can you get to know Him more?

Pastor Kevin talked about the joy we have when getting to know Jesus and the joy we have with others in our lives.

8. Where do you experience joy in your life? How had God been a part of the joy you experience in your life?

We all have wounds, trials, disappointments and heartaches. It's what we do in the midst of those that matter. Do we keep going, keep growing, keep knowing Him? Remember how He helped you overcome your trials in the past and trust Him to do that for you again.

CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank you for moving in my life. I know there are ways you have moved in us and through us that we may not recall. Remind us of how you have always been there and always will be. Help us to keep going, growing and continuing to know you better. Help us support one another in the movements you want to happen in our lives, as a group and as a church. Continue to teach us how to pray and grow in our relationship with you. Amen.

ACTION STEP

+ Read through the book of James together. You can find the reading plan and supplemental podcast for this series by downloading the Cross Point App or online at <https://crosspoint.tv/movement/>

+ Each week, come back ready to talk about your reading from the week, what you learned and how you can incorporate the scripture reading into your life.