



Virtues Study: **Perseverance** **Participant Guide**

BIG IDEA!

Perseverance is the unwavering endurance through trials and challenges, rooted in our faith in Christ. In a world marked by uncertainties and difficulties, the Christian journey is not exempt from trials. Perseverance, however, is not merely enduring hardships but a process where our faith is tested, refined, and ultimately strengthened. As we navigate the various trials of life, our commitment to Christ shapes our response, transforming adversity into an opportunity for spiritual growth. Through perseverance, we not only withstand challenges but also embrace them as a means by which our faith matures, leading us to a place of completeness in Christ. This journey of endurance is not something we do alone; rather, it is a collective pursuit where we support and uplift one another in our shared commitment to following Christ faithfully.

WARM UP (5-10 minutes)

1. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** How do you usually handle curveballs that life throws at you?
2. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** What's a challenge that you faced, that you didn't think would ever be resolved, but it ended up working out?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (30-40 minutes)

READ JAMES 1:2-4 OUT LOUD TOGETHER

(We recommend reading from the same version of the Bible if possible, for continuity sake. Although there are several good versions, we recommend the NIV, CSB, NLT, ESV)

1. **According to the passage, what is the relationship between trials, faith, and steadfastness?**
2. **How do you make sense of the idea of finding joy in trials?**
3. **How does persevering through trials contribute to our spiritual maturity? In what ways might our perspective on trials change if we view them as opportunities for steadfastness?**
4. **Share examples from your life where you really had to persevere. How did that experience impact your spiritual growth?**
5. **Take a moment to reflect on the trials you are currently facing. How might you view them through the lens of these verses?**
6. **Does knowing that Jesus suffered and went through trials for you change the way you view your own trials?**

LIVE IT OUT!

1. **Surrender whatever trial you're walking through right now to Jesus, spend time each day this week in prayer for this this trial.**
2. **Share the trail that you're walking through with someone in the group or with someone that you're close to, ask them to pray for your situation**

PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

Close your time with prayer. Thank God for the time that you just spent together. Thank Him for His grace in your lives. Pray for each other's specific needs. Remember, this can just be a very simple prayer.

