
GOD NEVER SAID THAT.

Week 1: God Will Never Give You More Than You Can Handle...



People have a lot to say when it comes to God. God is real. God is not real. Here's what God says. Here's what God thinks. Pop theology has made its way into our worship music, blogging, social media sites, and yes, even sometimes Bible Studies and sermons. This series, we will examine six of the most common forms of pop theology...

and then look to the Scriptures to see what God might say to us instead.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. On Sunday, Brian talked about "Pop Theology," our culture's spiritual sayings that include a shade of Christian truth, but in the end are proven false because our sources of Scriptures, tradition, experience, and reason share something different.

What bits of pop theology have you heard, experienced, etc., in your own faith journey and how have you discerned these statements/values/beliefs to be false?

2. *Read James 1:2-18.* Describe the key principles that James shares regarding the testing of our faith throughout the passage. How does God use these faith tests to shape us, and help us grow?
3. *Re-read James 1:13-18.* James goes on to describe temptation in our passage. How might temptation be different than testing? What does James say about temptation - specifically, what is the origin of temptation? How might this fit with our teaching this past Sunday, namely the notion that God provides all we need to handle the tests and trials we face in life (and not that God will never give us more than we can handle)? Discuss.
4. What are the promises for being faithful during the testing of our faith? Using a concordance or the [Faithlife Bible App](#), do a word search on the word "test," and see what additional passages you can find about the testing of our faith. How do these passages shape your understanding of the testing of your faith?
5. (20 minutes) Break into groups of men and women. Find separate areas of your meeting space. Discuss: (a) What faith struggles have you been having lately? (b) Take the time and care to pray for each person. Affirm and ask for God's strength and wisdom for each one.

BE THE REVOLUTION

It isn't that God chooses to give us more or less than we can handle; it's that God gives us what we need to handle the trials and tests during our lives.

RENOVATING THE HEART

Blessed is the one who remains steadfast under trial, for when they have stood the test, they will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him (*James 1:12*).