



“Faith Testers”

Trusting God when it's Hard!

Genesis 43:1-14

How we respond to:

I. Trials - “they had eaten up the corn which they had” (vs. 1-2)

Trusting God with Our:

A. Provisions - “famine was sore in the land”

B. Plans - “said unto them, Go again, buy...food”

C. People - “their father said...buy us a little food”

II. Truth - “to give them...thus he did unto them” (vs. 3-10)

Trusting God when He:

A. Restricts - “you shall not...except your brother be with you”

B. Reveals - “The man asked us straitly...of our kindred”

C. Rebukes - “except we had lingered, surely...we had returned”

III. Treasure - “take the best fruits in the land” (vs. 11-14)

Trusting God through:

A. Desperation - “If it must be so now, do this”

B. Discipline - “peradventure it was an oversight”

C. Dependency - “God Almighty give you mercy”

Sentence Sermon:

“Having Faith without Trials is like having a Surfboard and no Surf.”

Additional Verses

- *Hebrews 11:21*
- *Matthew 20:28.*
- *I Thessalonians 2:13-20*
- *Romans 5:6-8*
- *James 1:2-7*
- *Genesis 44:30-34*
- *I Peter 1:6-7*
- *Philippians 4:19*
- *Psalms 50:15*
- *Jeremiah 17:7*
- *Isaiah 49:23*
- *Deuteronomy 8:2-3*
- *Romans 8:25-39*

Questions to Ponder:

1. What are the key words in this passage?
2. Who is the central character of the passage?
3. Why do you think verse one describes the famine?
4. What is being emphasized by the use of the words “their father?”
5. Why does Judah jump in the discussion rather than Reuben?
6. Was Judah right to tell his father he would not go to Egypt?
7. How would you describe Jacob's attitude in verses 6-7?
8. What was Judah's point he was trying to make in verse 10?
9. What does Jacob's command to bring a present tell us about him?
10. How would you evaluate Jacob's faith in this situation?
11. How is Jacob's struggle to let go of Benjamin like our struggles?
12. What stories of God testing your faith could you tell?