

# Stretched Thin: Consider it Pure Joy

## Life Steps | October 15 & 16, 2016

### **Monday**

**James 1:2-8**

How do you feel about being “Stretched Thin,” tested and tried? How can the benefits mentioned help you connect with others? How is God active in this process? How does your personal thinking need to change?

### **Tuesday**

**John 18:15-27**

How might trials come because of an unwillingness to claim Christ? Like Peter, how might public denials affect maturity and a faith relationship with Christ? How does withholding your faith from others feel secure but actually provide uncertainty? How did Peter, and how might you, reconcile your public life with your private faith?

### **Wednesday**

**John 20:24-29**

James tells us we may seek God and ask for faith without God finding fault. How was this true for Thomas? Imagine Thomas’ week before seeing Jesus. How might you seek God and faith despite doubt? What habits could you change to not be blown around like the wind and waves?

### **Thursday**

**James 1:22-25**

When have you heard the word, but didn’t do it? Why? How do relationships encourage or hinder an ability to “do what it says”? How does God help? How can we live in the perfect law that freedom gives, but also demonstrate faithful action, by balancing religious belief with religious activity?

### **Friday**

**Exodus 17:5-7; Numbers 20:10-11**

Compare when Moses heard and obeyed with when he heard and didn’t obey? How was Moses in connection with others in each situation? How does our relational health with others affect our ability to hear and do? How can we create a healthy relational network?

### **Saturday**

**Hebrews 12:1-3**

Describe a time of perseverance that produced joy. How does Jesus’ perseverance bring joy? Recall a time of sharing joy with others resulting from perseverance. How do these three testimonies one each from self, Jesus and others encourage you?

### **Sunday**

**James 1:2-8; 22-26**

In what do you feel called to “Consider it pure joy?” How is Jesus involved, and what might he be saying that should be heard and done? Imagine how you may “Consider it pure joy.” Pray for faith to move forward.