

Bay City Wesleyan Church -- Bay City, Michigan
May 21, 2023

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Sunday Morning Worship Celebration 05-21-2023
INSIDE OUT - Lasting Growth and Change Starts Inside
Photo by RODNAE Productions: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/grandchildren-kissing-their-grandparents-5637739/>
<http://bible.com/events/49082472>
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CHAMPIONS OF HOPE GROUP
New here? Click on the link below to find out how to join our church's Facebook group -- Champions of Hope.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/infusinghope>

Series: INSIDE OUT - Lasting Growth and Change Starts Inside
Series Big Idea: All humans have experienced pain and seek to protect their inner selves from more suffering. We construct walls whether we refer to them as our souls, hearts, spirits, or something else. We focus on altering behaviors, resolving problems, and cultivating positive attitudes. We eventually become exhausted and frustrated since genuine growth and change begin from within us. Knowing Jesus transforms our values, beliefs, and characters. By experiencing His unconditional love, our wounds are healed, and our temperaments are tamed. Let's discover how we can live a life of growth from the inside out.

Text: James 1:2-8
Title: Standing the Tests of Time

John 16:33 NIV
33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
<https://john.bible/john-16-33>

James 1:2-8 NIV
2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault,

and it will be given to you. 6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. 7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

<https://bible.com/bible/111/jas.1.2-8.NIV>

Sermon in a Sentence:

Jesus pours perseverance into us.

I've been going through a long season of trials. Perhaps you've been going through a time of trials too. Even if you haven't, this is the best time for you and me to shift our ideas about trials. Listen as Jesus tells us, "Take heart! I am pouring blessings into your spirit through this trial. You will receive my heartfelt humility and remarkable love. Trust me. It is happening right now."