

**GAUGING YOUR INNER STRENGTH**  
James 1:2-4 & Hebrews 11:11-27 • October 9, 2022  
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**INTRODUCTION:**

A. How would you gauge your inner strength?

***Whenever trouble comes your way, let it be an opportunity for joy. For when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when it is fully developed you will be strong in character and ready for anything. — James 1:2-4***

**I. CHARACTER BUILDING TEST QUESTIONS**

A. **What** Lord? Our question when a new difficult task comes our way.

***It was by faith that Noah built an ark to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about something that had never happened before. — Hebrews 11:7***

- Faith is going without knowing.

***Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. — Hebrews 11:1***

B. **Where** Lord? When a major change happens.

***It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. — Hebrews 11:8***

- Faith is following God's leading.

C. **When** Lord? When God's promise is delayed.

***Even after Abraham reached the land God promised him, he lived by faith... living in a tent...Abraham did this because he was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God. — Hebrews 11:9-10***

D. **How** Lord? When life's problem seems to have no solution.

***It was by faith that Sarah together with Abraham was able to have a child, even though they were too old and Sarah was barren. Abraham believed that God would keep His promise. — Hebrews 11:11-12***

E. **Why** Lord? When we suffer loss and tragedy in life

***Abraham, who had received God's promises, was ready to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, even though God had promised him, "Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted." — Hebrews 11:17-18***

- Faith is trusting God when we don't understand His purpose.

F. **How** long Lord? When our test of faith is prolonged.

***By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. Instead, he chose to suffer with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasure of sin for a short time...he was looking ahead to his reward. — Hebrews 11:24-26***

- Faith can be painful.

**CONCLUSION:**