

FROM FAITH TO FAITH — GROWTH AND MATURITY

"Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand; and we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance; and endurance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit whom he has given us. Indeed, at the right time, while we were still weak, Christ died for the ungodly." (Romans 5:1–6)

"My brothers and sisters, consider it pure joy whenever you face various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. And let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing." (James 1:2-4)

- **Types of trials**

What is the result of this process?

- **Trust and obedience**
- **Firmness**
- **Hope**

"If our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are the most pitiable of all people." (1 Corinthians 15:19)

