

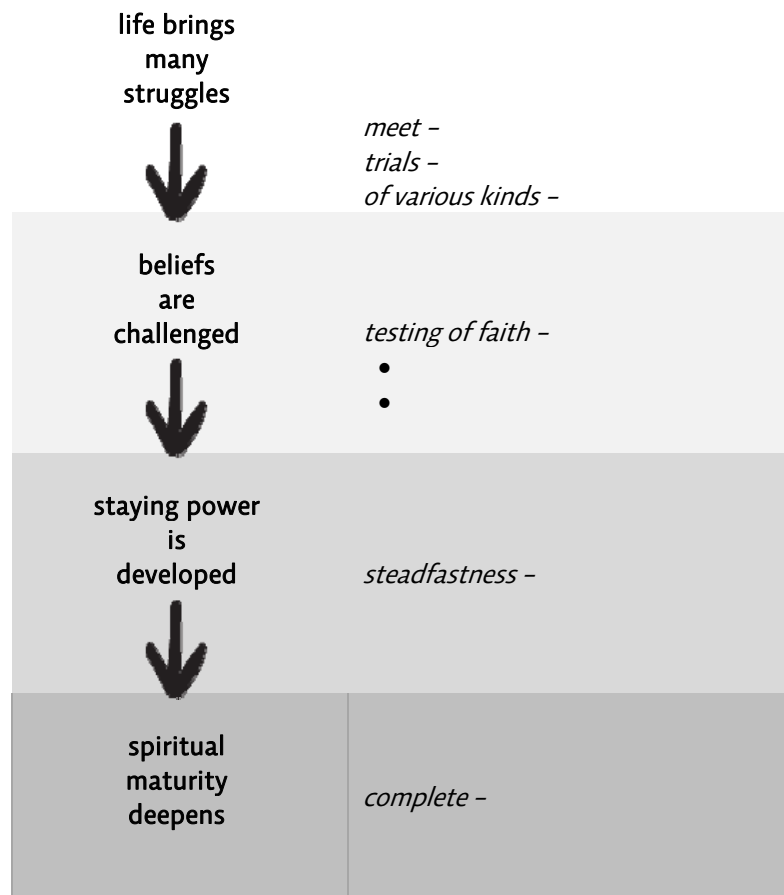
A REASON TO REJOICE

James 1:1-4

PROMISE

Know this:

PROCESS



Know this:

The stretching of your faith produces spiritual staying power.

RESPONSE

_____ the process of spiritual growth

Let it ...

full effect -

Sunshine alone creates deserts.
Arabic proverb

_____ difficulties as reasons to rejoice

Count it ...

all joy -

What I once considered mutually exclusive – sorrow and joy, pain and pleasure, death and life – have become parts of a greater whole. My soul has been stretched ... Above all, I have become aware of the power of God's grace and my need for it. My soul has grown because it has been awakened to the goodness and love of God ... God is growing my soul, making it bigger, and filling it with himself. My life is being transformed. Though I have endured pain, I believe that the outcome is going to be wonderful.

Gerald Sittser