



DEVOTION: July 14, 2019

Steadfast
Jim Drake

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.” (James 1:2–3)

As I write this, football training camps are in full swing. Young men are put to the test, both physically and mentally. They lift weights, run drills, and pummel inanimate objects until their bodies throb. In a recent interview, a player noted that the grueling work he puts his body through in July and August will help him successfully endure the long season ahead.

Just like no player relishes the thought of two-a-days in the heat of August, no believer longs for trials, difficulty, and suffering. But those things we wish to avoid are the very things God uses to strengthen us for the work He has for us. Take comfort in the fact that nothing you will ever have to endure has caught God by surprise. The trials you endure are His perfectly designed tests your faith needs to produce endurance and steadfastness in you.

As you encounter tests and trials today, thank God that through those difficult circumstances He is growing you into completeness by producing steadfastness in you.



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