...to take someone's words literally or seriously and act accordingly

James 1:1-8 (NIV) James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings.

<sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup> Such a person is doubleminded and unstable in all they do.

Matthew 4:1-11 (NIV) 4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> After fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry.

<sup>3</sup> The tempter came to Him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took Him to the holy city and had Him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup> "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command His angels concerning You, and they will lift You up in their hands, so that You will not strike your foot against a stone."" <sup>7</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup> "All this I will give You," he said, "if You will bow down and worship me." <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "Away from Me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only." <sup>11</sup> Then the devil left Him, and angels came and attended Him.

Some of the lessons we need to learn in order to serve God fully can only be learned in the trials of life

# We want to learn the lesson without taking the course

## Take Him at His Word <sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom,...

Matthew 4:12-17 (NIV) <sup>12</sup> When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> Leaving Nazareth, He went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali – <sup>14</sup> to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

<sup>15</sup> "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles-<sup>16</sup> the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned."

<sup>17</sup> From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

James 1:5-8 (NIV) <sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.<sup>8</sup> Such a person is doubleminded and unstable in all they do.

#### **Psalm 90:12 (NIV)** Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.