

**October 25th, Road Worthy**  
**Part 3 in the series 'The Human Race'**

What were some things from last Sunday's message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

Explain Jim's metaphor about the cone from the message.

What are struggles and hardships indicators of?  
Answer: that we are on the road back to paradise.

READ JAMES 1:2-4

**2** Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, **3** for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. **4** And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Give a possible statement about trials from the world's perspective that parallels James'.

Why should we care that trials and tribulations produce steadfastness in us?

How can we count it as joy when we face trials and tribulations?

READ Job 7:1-6

“Has not man a hard service on earth,  
and are not his days like the days of a hired hand?

**2**

Like a slave who longs for the shadow,  
and like a hired hand who looks for his wages,

**3**

so I am allotted months of emptiness,  
and nights of misery are apportioned to me.

**4**

When I lie down I say, ‘When shall I arise?’  
But the night is long,  
and I am full of tossing till the dawn.

**5**

My flesh is clothed with worms and dirt;  
my skin hardens, then breaks out afresh.

## 6

My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle  
and come to their end without hope.

How does Job's description of his suffering make you feel?

Job was innocent of the accusations his friends made against him. So, what does that tell us is a foundational aspect of being human, no matter how 'good' we act?

Answer: that we will face toil, struggle, hardship, difficulty and pain.

READ 1 Peter 4:11

**12** Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. **13** But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

Why do you think humans are generally surprised by hardship?

Why should we embrace the reality that being a human will involve hardship?

When we face hardship should we just pretend like we're fine before God?

Answer: NO! We should be honest before God. We see this in the book of Psalms, in Job, with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane etc.