



Introduction - James 1:1

1. Author: _____, a _____ of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Application:

2. Recipients: To the _____ in the _____.

Application:

3. _____ from James



DAY 1

Pray: Please open this time with prayer, asking the Lord to teach you over these next several weeks. Psalm 86:11, “Teach me Your way, O LORD, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.”

Memorize: Please read James 2:14 out loud several times, emphasizing a different word each time.

“What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?”

Study: Please read James 1:1-18 for context. Today we’ll focus our time on vs. 2-4.

1. What is the first command given in this passage? _____

2. What are some examples of various trials we face?
 - a. Physical _____

 - b. Emotional _____

 - c. Spiritual _____

3. What is the reason given in vs. 3 for why we can have joy in our trials? _____

4. What is the “full effect” of steadfastness in trials? _____

5. What is your natural response to trials? _____

6. James equates trials with the testing of our faith. How are they connected? _____

7. Please compare James 1:2-4 with Romans 5:3-5 and 1 Peter 1:6-7.
- a. What reason is given to rejoice in suffering in Romans 5:3-5? _____

 - b. According to 1 Peter 1:6-7, the trials come "if necessary." What's the purpose given in vs. 7? _____

8. What is a trial you have recently gone through or are going through now?
- a. How did you respond to the trial? _____

 - b. What questions about God come up when you're going through a trial? _____

 - c. How is the trial a testing of your faith? _____

 - d. What might God be revealing to you about your heart in the midst of the trial? _____

9. What truths about God from the following scriptures can give you courage in the midst of your trials?
- a. Psalm 34:8 _____

 - b. Psalm 94:17-19 _____

 - c. Isaiah 41:13 _____

 - d. Matthew 11:28-30 _____

Pray: Please close this time in prayer telling the Lord what you learned, thanking Him for what He's teaching you, and asking Him to give you the strength to remain steadfast in trials.



DAY 2

Pray: Please take a few minutes to thank God for who He is and ask Him for wisdom to understand and apply His word to your life. James 1:5, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.”

Memorize: Please read James 2:14 several times and then put this jumbled verse in the right order:

“Good what is it someone, my faith brothers, if says he works has faith does not have? Can save that him but?”

Study: Please read James 1:2-18. Today we’ll focus on vs. 5-8.

1. Why do you think James would bring up the subject of wisdom immediately after talking about trials? _____

2. What do you do when you’re faced with a situation that you don’t know how to handle the right way? _____

3. What does Proverbs 3:5-7 say to do?
- a. Vs. 5 _____
 - b. Vs. 5 _____
 - c. Vs. 6 _____
 - d. Vs. 7 _____
 - e. Vs. 7 _____
 - f. Vs. 7 _____

4. What is the result of following Proverbs 3:5-7 according to vs. 8? _____

5. How is receiving wisdom from God refreshing and healing? _____

6. What place do you give God's word have in your life for gaining wisdom? _____

7. How does God give to us when we ask for wisdom, according to James 1:5? _____

a. What impact does that have in your life? _____
b. Do you remember a time you asked God for wisdom? What happened? _____

8. What reason does James 1:6-7 give for not receiving wisdom from God? _____

9. Please compare James 1:6-7 with Matthew 14:22-33.
- a. How was Peter's doubt revealed? _____

- b. What did Jesus do when Peter began to sink? _____

- c. What did Jesus say to Peter? _____

- d. God still saved Peter and he went on to be a great missionary for the Gospel. From this story, is it possible to overcome a lack of faith? _____
- e. If you were in Peter's shoes, would you have sunk? _____

- f. What did Peter do when he began to sink (vs. 30)? _____

- g. What do you do when you feel like you're beginning to sink in your circumstances?

Pray: Please close this time in prayer, telling the Lord where you struggle believing him, and cry out to him as the man did in Mark 9:24 saying, "I do believe; help my unbelief!"

DAY 3

Pray: Please pray and ask the Lord to give you fresh perspective as you study His word today.

Memorize: Please read James 2:14 several times and then fill in the blanks:

“What _____ is it, my brothers, if _____ says he has _____ but does not have _____? Can that _____ save him?”

Study: Please read James 1:2-18. Today we’ll focus on vs. 9-11.

- The Greek word for lowly is “*tapeinós*” which means, “God-reliant rather than self-reliant.”
- The Greek word for boast is “*kauxáomai*” which means, “What holds the head up high (upright); figuratively, it refers to living with *God-given confidence*.”
- The Greek word for exaltation is “*hupsos*” which means, “height, heaven; dignity, eminence.”

1. Please rewrite verse 9 in your own words, keeping in mind the meaning of the Greek words provided. _____

2. Why would the lowly be considered exalted? _____

3. Please contrast the lowly with the rich. Why should the rich boast in his humiliation?

4. Please compare vs. 9-11 with Matthew 6:19-21. What point is Jesus trying to make about the rich? _____

5. What treasures on earth can get in the way of your worship? _____

6. Please read Luke 12:32-34. What do you learn about the Father's perspective on riches from this passage? _____

7. What is something on earth - not necessarily anything bad in and of itself - that you've pursued apart from Christ? _____

- a. What were the results of that pursuit? _____

- b. What satisfaction or contentment came in that pursuit? _____

8. Do you think James is saying it's wrong to have money? Why or why not? _____

9. What can you specifically apply to your present circumstances from this passage? _____

Pray: Please close this time in prayer asking the Lord to help you to be content in your circumstances, and telling Him what you've learned about Him today.

DAY 4

Pray: Please start this time in prayer, asking the Lord to help you to see that every good gift and every perfect gift comes from Him.

Memorize: Please fill in the blanks:

“James __: __ What __ is it, __, if __ says he __ but __ not have __? __ that __ him?”

Study: Please read James 1:2-18. Today we’ll focus on vs. 12-15.

- 1. Please compare James 1:2 with vs. 12. What similarities are in these 2 verses?
2. Vs. 12 says we’re blessed when we remain steadfast in trial, and vs. 13 says that God tempts no one. What is the difference between a trial and a temptation?
3. Please read Genesis 2:16-17 and 3:1-13.
a. How does Genesis 3:4-6 correlate with James 1:14-15?
b. Who did Adam blame for his sin? (There were 2.)
c. Who did Eve blame for her sin?
d. Please compare Genesis 2:17 with James 1:15. What similarities do you see?
4. Can you remember a time that you blamed God for your temptation to sin? What were the circumstances?

5. Please read Matthew 4:1-11.

- a. Who led Jesus to the wilderness? _____
- b. Who tempted Him? _____
- c. What three words were in Jesus' response to the devil each time he tried to make Jesus stumble? _____
- d. Why do you think Jesus responded with those three words? _____

- e. What can we learn from the way Jesus handled being tempted? _____

6. Please read Hebrews 4:15-16.

- a. What is Jesus' attitude toward us when we struggle with sin? _____

- b. What is His promise toward us when we go to Him for help? _____

7. What is an area of struggle in your life where you need God's help? _____

Pray: Please close this time in prayer telling the Lord what you learned today and asking Him for help in your struggle.

DAY 5

Pray: Please open this time in prayer telling the Lord what you've learned this week and asking Him to continue to teach you today.

Memorize: Please quote James 2:14 out loud. What is one thing from this verse that encourages or challenges you? _____



Study: Please read James 1:2-18. Today we'll focus on vs. 16-18 and then review the passage.

1. Why do you think James uses the words "Do not be deceived" as he transitions from talking about trials and temptations to talking about God's good gifts? _____

2. What is significant about the word "every" in this passage? _____

3. What do you learn about the character of God from vs. 17? Please list as many things as you can. _____

4. Can you think of a circumstance when you thought something would be good even though it was contrary to God's word? What was it and how did it turn out? _____

5. Can you think of a circumstance when God gave you a good and perfect gift? What was it?

6. From vs. 18...
 - The Greek word for "brought us forth" is "apokueó", meaning "to give birth to."
 - The Greek word for truth is "alétheia", meaning "truth, but not merely truth as spoken; truth of idea, reality, sincerity, truth in the moral sphere, divine truth revealed to man, straightforwardness."
 - The Greek word for firstfruits is "aparché", meaning "the earliest crop of the year, for example, of the earliest converts in a district."

Please rewrite vs. 18 in your own words. _____

7. Please look back over vs. 2-18
 - a. How do you see the life of Jesus modeled in this passage? _____

b. What character trait about God from this passage is most meaningful to you in your present circumstances? _____

c. How are you seeking God's wisdom in your circumstances? _____

Pray: Please close this time by writing a letter to God telling Him:

a. What you've learned from this passage

b. What you struggle with understanding from this passage

c. What you'd like Him to help you grasp from this passage
