

Meet James the Brother of Jesus

The Book of James - Week 1

An overview of the book of James

→ **Note:** Anytime you begin a study of a book in the Bible, it is helpful to start by asking two questions. One, who wrote the book? And two, what do we know about the author?

Who was James?

(1) He was a brother of Jesus. (Matthew 13:54-56)

(2) He was a skeptic about Jesus being the Savior until later in life. (John 7:1-5; Mark 3:20-21; Acts 26:24; Acts 1:14;

1 Corinthians 15:6-7)

(2) He became a leader of the early church.
(Acts 15:13-19)

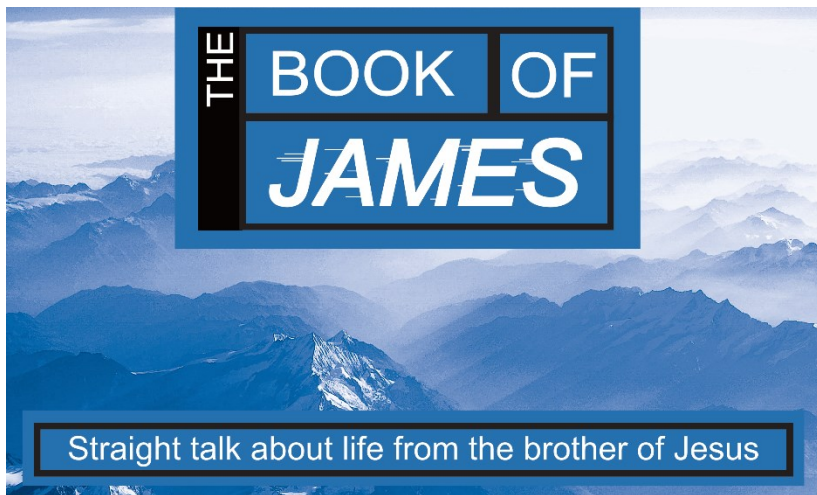
Five general marks of a spiritually mature believer.

1. A mature believer is positive under pressure.
(James 1:2-4)

2. A mature believer cares about others.
(James 2:8)

3. A mature believer knows how to tame their tongue.
(James 3:2)

4. A mature believer is not a troublemaker but a peacemaker.
(James 4:1)



A Helpful Handbook for Hard Times

The Book of James - Week 2

James 1:1-5

→ **Note:** After his greeting, James shares why he was writing this letter. James wanted to encourage the Jewish Christians who were living under great pressure because of the persecution (Acts 11:19-20) to continue to GROW IN and LIVE OUT their Christian faith.

4 Facts about problems (James 1:2-3)

Fact #1 - Problems are **INEVITABLE**.

Fact #2 - Problems are **UNPREDICTABLE**.

Fact #3 - Problems are **VARIOUS**.

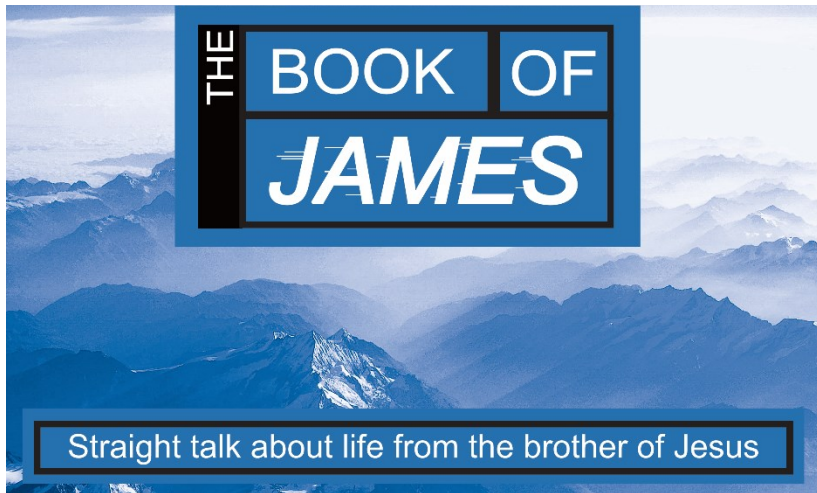
Fact #4 - Problems are **PURPOSEFUL**.

Three Purposes of Problems (James 1:3-4)

Purpose #1 - Problems can **strengthen my faith**.

Purpose #2 - Problems can **develop my perseverance**.

Purpose #3 - Problems can **change my character**.



How to Make Right Decisions

The Book of James - Week 3

James 1:5-11

→ **Note:** Life is full of decisions. We want to make right decisions because we know that every decision we make will affect our life in one way or another. As a matter of fact, the kind of life we have will be determined by the kind of decisions we make. We make our decisions and then our decisions make us. The good news is that God wants to enable us to make right decisions.

Three facts about decision-making

- ◆ **FACT #1** - To make right decisions in life, I need the right source of wisdom. (James 1:5a)
- ◆ **FACT #2** - I can go to God for the wisdom I need and He will give it to me. (James 1:5b)

Steps for getting wisdom from God

STEP ONE: Acknowledge my need for wisdom from God. (James 1:5a)

STEP TWO: Ask God for the wisdom I need. (James 1:5b)

How God gives wisdom

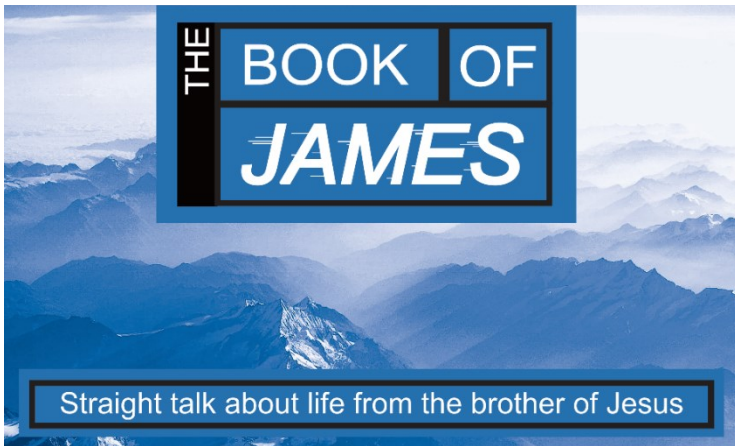
- (1) Sometimes God gives wisdom through **PRAYER**.
- (2) Sometimes God gives wisdom through **OTHERS**.
- (3) Sometimes God gives us wisdom through the **BIBLE**.

STEP THREE: Anticipate an answer to my prayer. (James 1:5c)

→ **Note:** James tells us that it is not only important to ask the right person for wisdom - God, it is also important that we ask the right way - believing that God will answer our prayer.

The ways God gives

- (1) God gives **continually**. "**Keep on asking God.**" (James 1:5a)
- (2) God gives **generously**. "***... who gives generously to all...***" (James 1:5b)
- (3) God gives **graciously**. "**... without finding fault.**" (James 1:5c)



How to Handle Temptation

The Book of James - Week 4
James 1:12-18

Persistence pays off - James 1:12

→ Note: What's the difference between trials and temptations? A **TRIAL** is a challenging circumstance that God can use for a positive purpose in our life. A **TEMPTATION** is an appealing trap designed by the devil to harm us and others.

How to win over temptation

1. Be realistic - James 1:13a

→ Note: The danger of not being realistic about temptation is that we will overestimate our own strength and underestimate the strength of temptation.

1 Corinthians 10:12: "If you think you are standing strong, be careful, for you, too, may fall into sin."

Question: Is there any area of my life where I am overestimating my strength and underestimating the strength of a temptation by thinking, "*I can handle this?*"

2. Be responsible - James 1:13b

Proverbs 19:3: "A man's own folly ruins his life, yet his heart rages against the Lord."

3. Be ready - James 1:14-16

How temptation works

Step #1 - **Desire** (James 1:14a)

Step #2 - **Deception** (James 1:14b)

Step #3 - **Disobedience** (James 1:15-16)

→ Note: First, the devil gets your **ATTENTION** with a temptation. Next, he gets your **ATTITUDE** to change about the temptation. Finally, he entices you to **ACT** on the temptation.

God is the source of all good - James 1:17-18

→ Note: The key to overcoming temptation is not fighting the feelings; it is refocusing your thoughts.

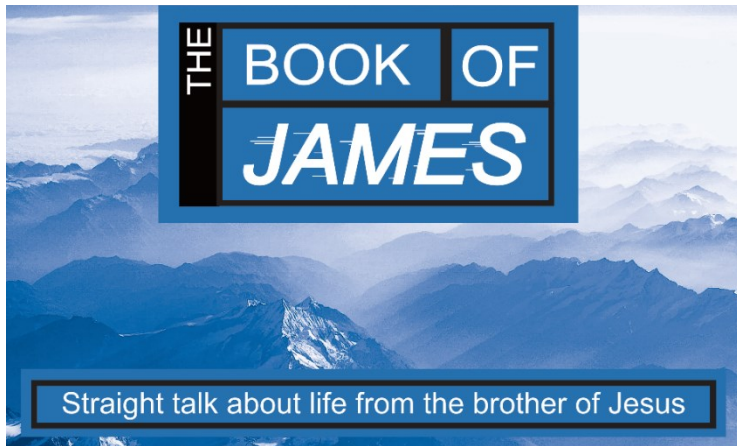
When temptation knocks at my door ...

1. **I will look ahead.** Look ahead to the consequences that _____ come when I choose to give in to sin.

2. **I will look around.** Look around and see how good God _____ has been to me.

3. **I will look within.** Look within for God's power to help me _____ win over temptation.

1 Corinthians 10:13: "The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure."



The Danger of Deceiving Yourself - Part 1

The Book of James - Week 5

James 1:19-21

Introduction: Probably no other book in the New Testament places the spotlight on the importance of Christians living out what they believe like the book of James. Throughout his book, James asks in one way or another, “Does what you BELIEVE match how you BEHAVE?” “Does your life mirror your faith, or do you find cracks and gaps between what you talk and you walk?” To help us be aware of the potential dangers of deceiving ourselves, James gives us examples of how this can happen in the Christian life.

Deception #1 - Ignoring our thoughts (“be quick to listen”), our tongues, (“be slow to speak”) and our tempers (“be slow to

become angry”), and thinking we are spiritually well when we are not. (James 1:19-21)

A Christian's walk should affect a Christian's talk

Instruction #1 - Listen more. James 1:19a - “*be quick to listen.*”

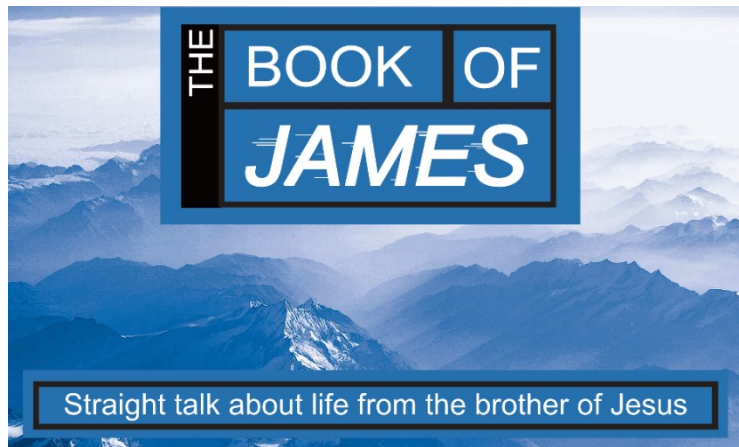
Psalm 141:3, “Set a guard over my mouth, LORD (“take control of what I say”), and keep watch over the door of my lips (watch over the words that come out of my mouth).”

Instruction #2 - Talk Less. James 1:19b - “*be slow to speak.*”

Ecclesiastes 3:7, “There is a time to be silent and a time to speak.”

Instruction #3 - Calm Down. James 1:19c - “... *be slow to become angry.*”

The Importance of taming our temper - James 1:20-21



The Danger of Deceiving Yourself - Part 2

The Book of James - Week 6

James 1:22-27

→ **Note:** To help us be aware of the potential dangers of deceiving ourselves, James gives us examples of how this can happen in the Christian life.

Deception #1 - We ignore our THOUGHTS (“be quick to listen”), OUR TONGUES (“be slow to speak”), and our TEMPERS (“be slow to become angry”), and yet think we are spiritually well ... when we are not. (James 1:19-21)

The James 1:19 Principle - We should listen more, talk less, and calm down. A Christian’s walk should affect a Christian’s talk.

Deception #2 - We hear the Word, but don’t do the Word, and yet think we are spiritually well ... when we are not. (James 1:22-25)

→ **Note:** It’s one thing to read the Bible. It’s another thing to let the Bible read me (Hebrews 4:12-13).

→ **Note:** In one sense, we do not “break” the Ten Commandments. We are broken by the Ten Commandments when we disobey them.

A season of self-deception in the life of King David - 2 Samuel 12:1-10

Deception #3 - Although we know our attitudes and actions are not godly, we still consider ourselves religious, and spiritually well ... when we are not. (James 1:26-27)

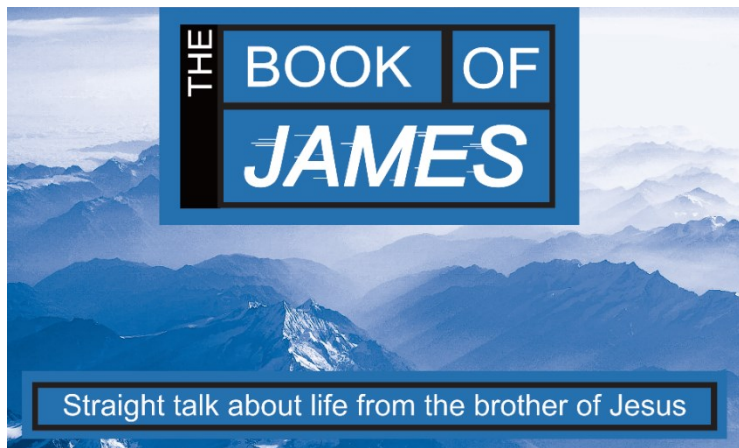
Three signs our religious practices aren’t sincere

Sign #1 - An uncontrolled tongue. (James 1:26)

Sign #2 - An uncompassionate heart. (James 1:27a)

Sign #3 - An unholy character. (James 1:27b)

→ **Note:** When our religious practices are sincere, they will show up in a Christ-like **conversation**, in Christ-like **compassion**, and in a **Christ-like character**.



Seeing People the Way God Does

The Book of James - Week 7

James 2:1-13

Note #1 - James has told us in Chapter 1 that there are three ways a mature believer acts. One, a mature believer has A CONTROLLED TONGUE. Two, a mature believer has A COMPASSIONATE HEART. And three, a mature believer has A CLEAN LIFE (James 1:19-21).

SECTION 1 - God's people are to show no favoritism. (James 2:1)

Note #2 - "Favoritism" refers to showing favor to some people or showing a lack of favor to other people based on appearance or status.

SECTION 2 - First Church of Our Kind Only - No Vacancy. (James 2:2-4)

Note #3: Why does James see favoritism as wrong? Because in the church we are to all be one "in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ." To say this another way, because of our common faith in Jesus, the things that unite us should always be greater than the things that could divide us.

SECTION 3 - Man's favoritism never agrees with God's heart.

(James 2:5-7)

Note #4 - God loves using the poor and the broken so He can show the world what He can do with people who place their hope and trust in Him. God delights to take drug addicts, alcoholics, a life with failures, and people of all kinds that the world may see as hopeless and give them new life through His Son, Jesus.

SECTION 4 - Favoritism violates the royal law "Love Your Neighbor as Yourself" (James 2:8-11)

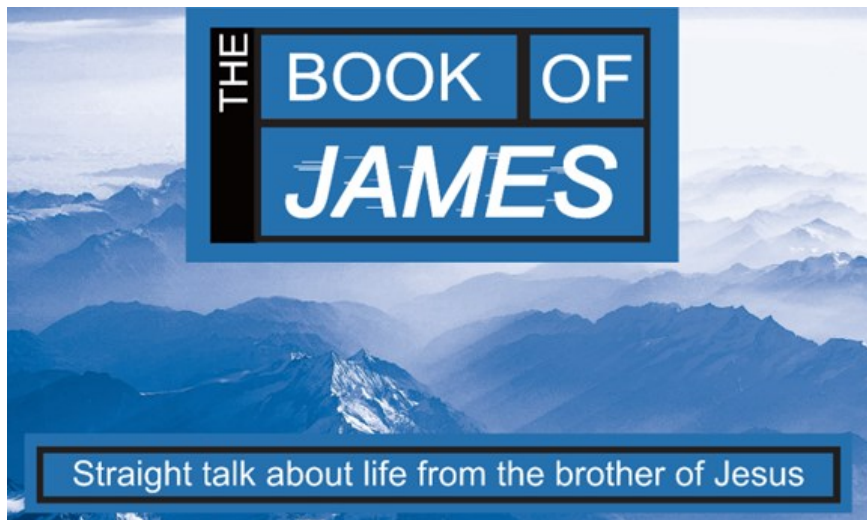
Note #5 - James is saying in verses 10-11 that we can't practice selective obedience. We can't pick and choose which commands of God we will obey and which commands of God can be "sort of sinning" against the commands of God. God cares about the whole law because the whole law is given for our good and our protection.

SECTION 5 - The message of mercy changes everything. (James 2:12-13)

Note #6 - Part of the glorious good news of the gospel is this: "Mercy triumphs over judgment!" If we get what we deserve, we would end up in hell. What I deserve, I don't want (eternity in hell). What I need, I don't deserve (eternity in Heaven). Praise God for His amazing grace that is greater than all our sins!

Note #7 - Favoritism is unloving because it is impossible to discriminate against a person and demonstrate love toward that person. The love of Jesus compels us to say, "Everyone who belongs to Jesus belongs to me."

Note #8 - The important key to defeating favoritism is to treat other people the way God treats me - WITH A LOT OF MERCY! At times, this may require us to pray, "God, help me see this person the way You see them."



Autopsy of a Dead Faith

The Book of James - Week 8

James 2:14-26

→ **Note:** To know if someone or something is actually dead, one must first check for the fundamental signs of life. This is why James is qualified to be a spiritual examiner - he knows how to determine if a person's faith is dead or alive. Starting in James 2:14, let's look at the examination of James in seeing if a person's faith is spiritually alive or spiritually dead.

Signs of spiritual life and spiritual death

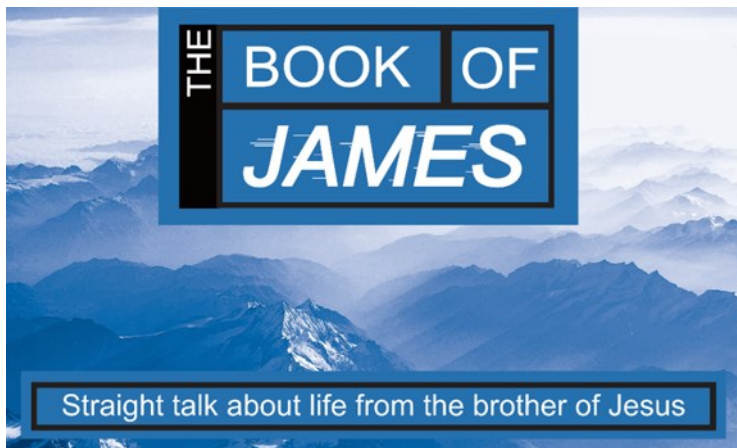
Sign #1 - A dead faith is a "say so" faith in words only. (James 2:14)

Sign #2 - A dead faith has no compassion or action for helping others. (James 2:15-17)

Sign #3 - A dead faith can be religious in the head but not spiritual in the heart. (James 2:18-19)

Sign #4 - A dead faith is a life without faith or without works instead of a life with faith and works. (James 2:20-26)

* Here are five words that will take us all the way to Heaven: ***Only Jesus and Jesus only***. But it is not enough to say those words or to memorize them or to write them on a card. We must trust in Jesus as our Savior and Lord and Him alone.



The World's Smallest But Largest Troublemaker

The Book of James - Week 9
James 3:1-12

→ **Note:** It was the sentence heard around the world:

"I don't need a ride; I need ammunition." - Ukrainian President Zelensky

SECTION 1 - With more words, comes more accountability. (James 3:1-2)

Be careful of being a teacher

Reason #1 - A teacher represents speaking for God.
(James 3:1)

Reason #2 - A teacher must practice what they teach.
(James 3:2a)

Reason #3 - A teacher speaks a lot of words!
(James 3:2b)

SECTION 2 - Why it's important that we watch our words. (James 3:3-6)

Point #1 - Our words have the power to DIRECT.
(James 3:3-5a)

6 pictures that illustrate why we need to watch our words

Picture #1 - A horse bit. (James 3:3)

Picture #2 - A ship's rudder. (James 3:4-5a)

SECTION 3 - The difficulty of taming the tongue. (James 3:6-8)

Point #2 - Our words have the power to DESTROY.
(James 3:5b-8)

Picture #3 - A forest fire. (James 3:5b-6)

Picture #4 - A dangerous animal. (James 3:7-8)

SECTION 4 - The contradictory character of the tongue. (James 3:9-12)

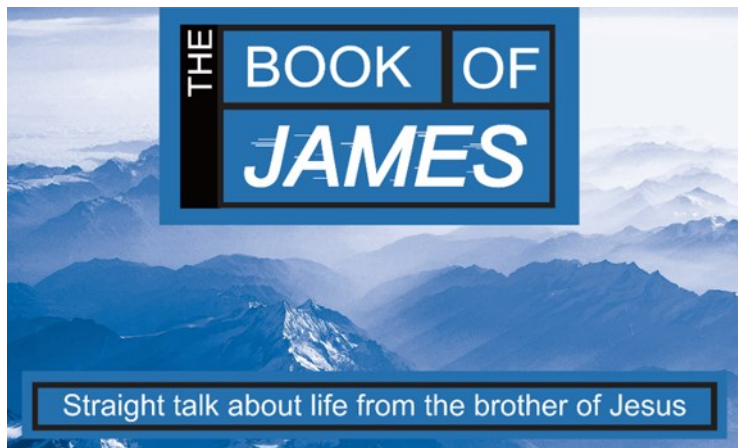
Point #3 - Our words have the power to DELIGHT.
(James 3:9)

Point #4 - Our words have the power to DISPLAY who we really are. (James 3:10-12)

Picture #5 - A water spring. (James 3:10-11)

Picture #6 - A fig tree. (James 3:12)

→ **Note:** The problem, of course, is not the tongue; it is the heart. The heart of the matter with our words is a matter of the heart. Jesus said in Matthew 15:18, "The things that come out of a person's mouth come from the heart." A person with a harsh tongue has an angry heart. A person with a negative tongue has a critical heart. A person with a judging tongue has a bitter heart. My words reveal what's really in my heart. No man can tame the tongue (James 3:8), but God can. "God help and heal my heart that the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart may be pleasing in Your sight" (Psalm 19:14).



Life is Better with Wisdom from God

The Book of James - Week 10
James 3:13-18

- **Note:** The good news is James tells us where we can find the wisdom we need. He begins his letter in James 1:5 with a wonderful promise: “If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.” For whatever we need wisdom, we can ask our generous God, and it will be given!”

Two important statements about wisdom

Statement #1 - Wisdom is more than knowledge, it is a lifestyle of right decisions. (James 3:13)

- **Note:** Knowledge and wisdom aren’t the same. “Knowledge” refers to the accumulation of facts. “Wisdom” gives you an understanding of what the facts mean. A person could be very intelligent but still be very foolish. Anyone can gain knowledge, but only God can give you wisdom.

→ **Statement #2 - Neglecting wisdom from God will result in all kinds of problems.** (James 3:14-16)

- **Note:** Whenever a conversation with someone starts going bad, we can know that the direction we are following is promptings from the devil, not God; for our harm, not our good.

Six characteristics of God’s wisdom in me (James 3:17-18)

Characteristic #1 - It is pure. “If I’m wise, I won’t compromise my integrity.”

Characteristic #2 - It is peace-loving. “If I am wise, I won’t antagonize others with anger.”

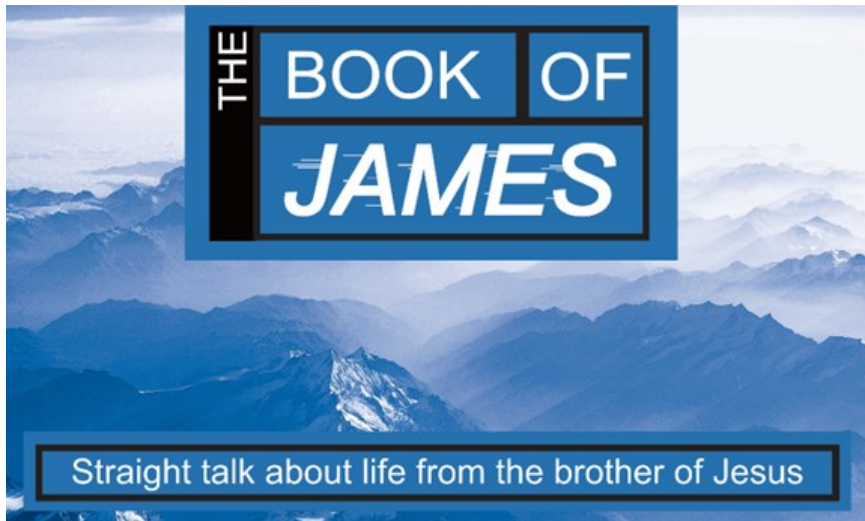
Characteristic #3 - It is considerate. “If I’m wise, I won’t minimize the feelings of others.”

Characteristic #4 - It is submissive. “If I’m wise, I won’t criticize others’ decisions.”

Characteristic #5 - It is full of mercy and good fruit. “If I’m wise, I won’t emphasize the mistakes of others.”

Characteristic #6 - It is impartial and sincere. “If I’m wise, I won’t disguise my weaknesses.”

Conclusion: We need God’s wisdom because so much is at stake. Throughout our life, we will make decisions and then our decisions will make us. That’s why it is so important that we seek God’s wisdom and direction first and often throughout our life.



Conquering Conflict in Our Life

The Book of James - Week 11

James 4:1-10

Introduction: As we come to the 4th chapter of James, James is going to discuss the importance of having a submitting attitude toward God and others. He is also going to show us how conflict starts and how conflict can be stopped when we do things God's way.

- ◆ **Note:** James identifies three areas of conflict that we all face: (1) Conflict with others (4:1); (2) Conflict with ourselves (4:2-3); and (3) Conflict with God (4:4-10). He starts by identifying the cause of conflict in verse 1.

Three ways selfish

#1 - Our desires can cause conflict from our passions (James 4:2). Example: *"I want what I want and will fight to get it."*

#2 - Our desires can cause conflict from our pleasures (James 4:3). Example: *"I want what pleases me whether it pleases others or not."*

#3 - Our desires can cause conflict from our pride (James 4:4-6). Example: *"I want to do what I want to do regardless of what God says."*

A definition of grace: God's more than enough help in our times of need.

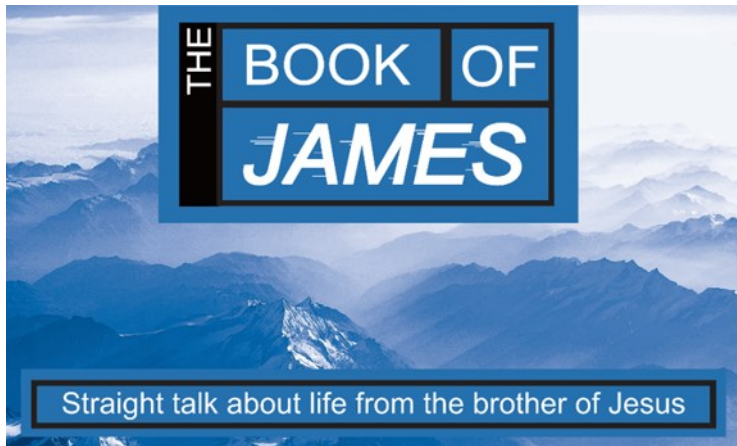
How to conquer conflicts (James 4:7-10)

Step #1 - Go to God. (James 4:7a)

Step #2 - Stop listening to the devil. (James 4:7b)

Step #3 - Deal with my sins. (James 4:8-9)

Step #4 - Start again depending on God. (James 4:10)



Lessons for the Arrogant

The Book of James - Week 12
James 4:11-17

Introduction: Last week we looked at the dangers of a prideful life from James chapter 4 (v.10). This week, James will continue the topic of the presence of pride in our life as he shows us important lessons the arrogant should learn.

A definition of pride - An attitude of self-sufficiency void of any God dependency.

LESSON #1 - Be a brother to another, not a judge.
(James 4:11-12)

LESSON #2 - Don't leave God out of your life plans.
(James 4:13-15)

Two major mistakes the arrogant make

Mistake 1 - Planning without God. (James 4:13)

The problem with the plan: There's only one problem with their planning in verse 13, and it is no small problem - there is not a single mention of God in any of their plans. There's nothing wrong with what they did in making their plans. It's what they didn't do that was the problem - they neglected to consult God first.

Mistake 2 - Presuming about tomorrow. (James 4:14)

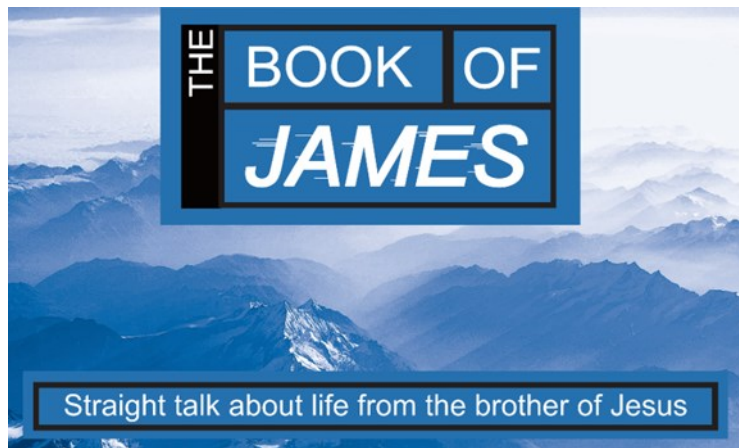
Proverbs 27:1: "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring."

LESSON #3 - Picking my will to do and ignoring the Lord's will. (James 4:15-16)

Living life dangerously: Some Christians mistakenly feel it is dangerous to seek God's will about certain matters in their life because of what God might decide. But the dangerous life is not IN the will of God, the dangerous life is OUT of the will of God. The safest place in the whole world to be is right where God wants you.

LESSON #4 - Putting off doing good. (James 4:17)

Conclusion: A few years ago, the Peace Corp ran this statement in one of their commercials: "**It doesn't matter how long you live if you're not doing anything with your life.**" We worry about the duration of life - how long am I going to live. But what matters to God is the donation of our life. What am I doing with my life? To make our life count, we need to do good now instead of putting it off until "someday."



What God Wants Us to Remember About Money

The Book of James - Week 13

James 5:1-6

Introduction: Whether we want it to be or not, money plays a big part in our life. If money is used rightly, it can bless us, it can benefit others, and it can be used to support God's work on earth. But when money is not used rightly, it can be a source of stress, a source of worry, a source of greed, and a source of conflict.

Four reminders God wants us to remember about money

REMINDER #1 - More money does not bring more happiness.

(James 5:1-3a)

- ◆ **Wealthy things won't last.** Notice how James refers to the destruction of the three kinds of wealth in those days. Their GRAIN will rot. Their GARMENTS will be ruined. And their GOLD will rust.
- ◆ **Our money will talk.** Someone has said that one day God will ask us two questions about our money. One, how did you get it? And two, how did you use it?

REMINDER #2 - More money can make us more selfish.

(James 5:3b-4a; 6)

Three misuses of money

- ◆ **Misuse #1** - They hoarded their wealth. (James 5:3b)
- ◆ **Misuse #2** - They withheld wages. (James 5:4a)
- ◆ **Misuse #3** - They abused and ruined the lives of others. (James 5:6)

REMINDER #3 - Big bucks can cause us to miss the big picture.

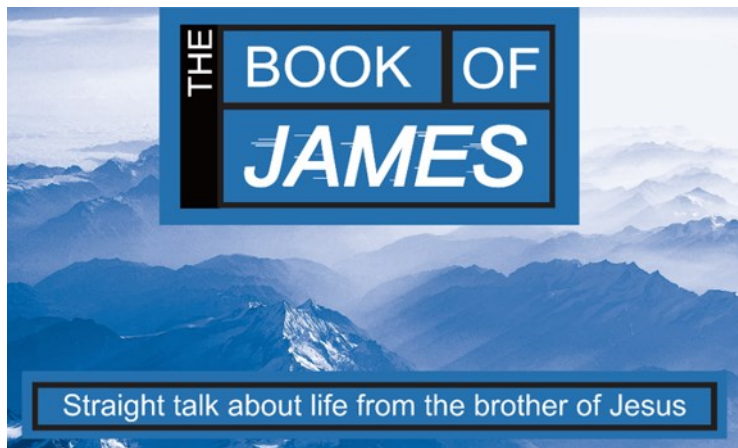
(James 5:5)

- **Don't miss the big picture.** James is warning in essence, "You can make all the big bucks you want, but in the process, you can miss the big picture of what life is really all about." The rich had the things that money CAN buy - but they didn't have the things that money CANNOT buy.

REMINDER #4 - Your needs are not unnoticed by God.

(James 5:4b)

Conclusion: Many years ago, King David reminded God's people of the same thing James is reminding us of when he wrote in **Psalm 62:10**: "**...if your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.**" There is nothing wrong with having money in your hand as long as it does not get into your heart. Someone has said, "If your treasure is on earth, you are going from it; if your treasure is in Heaven, you are going to it."



The Power of Practicing Patience

The Book of James - Week 14
James 5:7-12

Introduction: Since we need patience in every area of life, when we learn from the Bible how we can practice the power of patience, it will benefit every area of our life.

Three examples of patience in practice

EXAMPLE #1 - THE FARMER. The power of patience when circumstances are uncontrollable. (James 5:7-9)

What comes from practicing patience is worth waiting for. Every time we endure a difficult circumstance, it produces something valuable in us or for us. If we won't get in a hurry when life is in a flurry, we can advance through adversities and anticipate a harvest of blessings.

EXAMPLE #2 - THE PROPHETS. The power of patience when people are unchangeable. (James 5:10)

Go to God, not to grumbling. Grumbling can tear a family apart, destroy friendships, and build barriers with others. If we are going to have positive relationships with our family, our friends, and other

people, with God's help, we have to learn to practice patience with people.

EXAMPLE #3 - JOB. The power of patience when problems are unexplainable. (James 5:11)

Don't get impatient with God. The only thing Job was left with was a question, "Why?" At the lowest of low points in Job's life, Satan was counting on one thing to happen - Job would get impatient with God. If that could happen, Satan could bring numerous defeats into Job's life and Job would miss God's best for him.

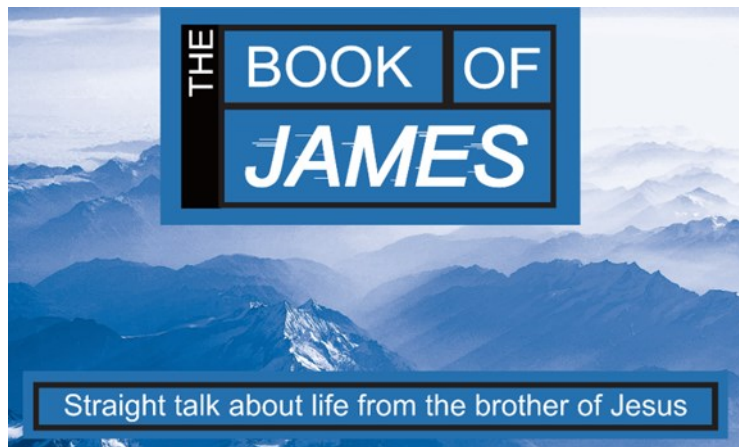
We can practice patience because we know...

- (1) **God is in control.** (James 5:9b)
- (2) **God will reward patience.** (5:11a)
- (3) **God is working while we are waiting.** (5:11b)

In times of inconsistency always practice integrity.
(James 5:12)

Avoid regrets. James reminds us that another benefit of the power of patience is when we practice patience in what we say, we won't later regret the words we've said.

Conclusion: Is there someplace in my life where I need patience today? Patience with a circumstance? Patience with a person? Patience with a problem? Remember, sometimes when we are waiting on God, He is waiting on us. He is waiting on us to stop trying to do things ourselves and start trusting Him.



How to Pray About Problems - Part 1

The Book of James - Week 15

James 5:13-16

Introduction: Two things are true for all believers. One, we ALL have problems. And two, we ALL should believe that prayer to the Lord can help with our problems. In this last section of the letter of James, he is going to talk to us on the topic of how to pray about our problems.

- ◆ **John 16:33:** “In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

A keyword. A Christian has no special immunity from experiencing the same problems, pressures, and pains that everyone else experiences in life. The issue that James wants to address is “How do we deal with problems when they come?” Here’s a hint. In this section of James, he mentions the word “prayer” seven times.

Prayer changes everything - James 5:13-15

- ◆ **Psalm 62:8,** “Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge.”

Reasons Healing Might Not Happen

Reason #1 - Unconfessed Sin (James 5:16)

Reason #2 - Lack of Faith (James 1:6-7)

Reason #3 - A Higher Purpose (James 4:15)

- ◆ **Isaiah 55:8-9,** “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.”
- ◆ **1 Timothy 5:23,** “Use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.”

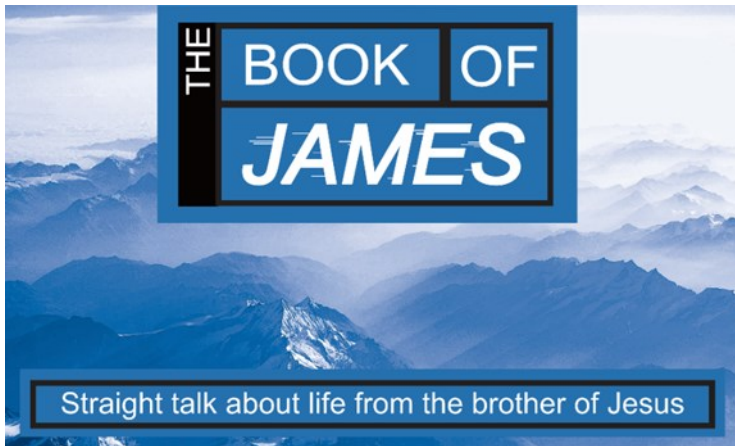
A limited view of what God wants to do. Sometimes, Christians have a limited view of what God wants to do in healing or not healing. They think if they are sick, they should only have to ask God to heal them, and because God loves them, He will heal them. After all, a loving God would want to heal His child and that healing would be proof of His love. But every parent knows that they do not give a child everything he asks for every time, no matter how much the parent loves the child. A loving parent does what is best for their child and so does God.

Benefits of confessing our sins to one another

Benefit #1 - Confessing our sins to another can free us from the heavy burdens of carrying unconfessed sins.

Benefit #2 - Confessing our sins to another can break the power of a secret sin the Evil One is using in our life.

Benefit #3 - Confessing our sins to another but before God, will put us back in harmony with God, others, and ourselves.



How to Pray About Problems - Part 2

The Book of James - Week 16
James 5:13-20

Quick review from Part 1 of James 5:13-20

- **Note:** Two things are true for all believers. One, we all have problems. And two, we all should believe that prayer to the Lord can help us with our problems.

What to remember about praying for healing

1 John 5:14, "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that **if we ask anything according to His will**, He hears us.

Three questions answered about prayer

- ◆ **Question #1 - Who can pray?** (James 5:17-18)
- ◆ **Question #2 - What can I pray about?** (5:13-16a)
- ◆

Three examples of what I can pray about.

- **Example #1 - I can pray about my emotional needs.** (James 5:13)
→ **Example #2 - I can pray about my physical needs.** (James 5:14-15)

Three general views on healing

- ◆ **View #1** - God wants everyone healed.
- ◆ **View #2** - God no longer heals anyone.
- ◆ **View #3** - God still heals but not everyone gets healed.

→ **Note:** It is always in **God's power to heal** but it is not always in **God's purpose to heal.** (2 Corinthians 12:7-10)

→

Four conclusions about physical suffering and healing

(1) We live in an imperfect world, and in an imperfect world, suffering happens.

(2) God does not cause all suffering, but He will never waste it. God can always accomplish something for our good out of something seemingly bad.

(3) I don't know why some people are healed and why others are not. I do know we are to pray and leave the rest to God.

(4) There is a temporary healing when someone is healed - but that person will still eventually die. There is also an ultimate healing where the person goes home to Heaven and is fully healed.

→ **Example #3 - I can pray about my spiritual needs.** (James 5:16a)

- ◆ **Question #3 - How should I pray?** (James 5:16b)

Praying for the straying (James 5:19-20)

→ **Note:** Anyone can stray at any time. We need to humbly pray for anyone we see moving away from God. And if led by God, we need to be willing to speak truth in a spirit of love to that person. Every believer is a member of God's search-and-rescue ministry.