STUDY

James Bible Study Questions and Answers (Free PDF)

A 7-session walk through James, from trials and wisdom to prayer and patience, with an answer key for leaders. Free to print, no sign-up.

A 7-session study of James for groups or solo reading.

> *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.*
>
> **James 1:5 (NIV)**

> *My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry*
>
> **James 1:19 (NIV)**

> *Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.*
>
> **James 1:22 (NIV)**

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The study guide

SESSION 1 · JAMES 1:1-18

Joy in Trials

James writes to scattered believers and tells them to face trials with joy, ask God for wisdom, and hold on to the truth that every good gift comes down from the Father.

1. What does James say testing produces, and what does he tell us to do if we lack wisdom (James 1:2-5)?

2. Why does James call people who persevere under trial blessed (James 1:12), and how does he separate trials from temptation (James 1:13-15)?

3. What trial are you in now, and what would it look like to ask God for wisdom in it this week?

SESSION 2 · JAMES 1:19-27

Hearing and Doing

James calls us to listen well, put away anger, receive the word with humility, and then live it out. Hearing alone leaves us fooling ourselves.

1. What three things does James say everyone should be in James 1:19, and what picture does he use for someone who hears the word and does nothing (James 1:23-24)?

2. Why does James say anger does not bring about the righteousness God desires (James 1:20), and what is the word that saves us (James 1:21)?

3. Where is there a gap between what you have heard from God and what you have done about it?

SESSION 3 · JAMES 2:1-13

No Favorites

James warns the church against treating the rich with honor and the poor with contempt. God chose the poor to be rich in faith, and mercy triumphs over judgment.

1. What scene does James describe in James 2:2-4, and how does he say we have treated the poor man?

2. Why does James call loving your neighbor the royal law (James 2:8), and what does he mean that mercy triumphs over judgment (James 2:13)?

3. Who in your church or life do you tend to overlook, and what is one way to welcome them?

SESSION 4 · JAMES 2:14-26

Faith and Works

James asks what good it is to say we have faith with no deeds. Living faith shows itself in action, as it did in Abraham and in Rahab.

1. What example does James give in James 2:15-16, and what does he say about faith that has no deeds (James 2:17)?

2. How do Abraham and Rahab show that faith and works belong together (James 2:21-25), and how does this fit with Paul teaching that we are saved by faith?

3. What is one way your faith could show itself in action this week?

SESSION 5 · JAMES 3:1-18

The Tongue and True Wisdom

James shows how a small tongue steers a whole life and can set a forest on fire. He sets earthly envy against the wisdom from above.

1. What three pictures does James use for the tongue in James 3:3-6, and what contradiction does he see in James 3:9-10?

2. What marks the wisdom that comes from heaven in James 3:17, and how is it different from the wisdom that carries envy and selfish ambition (James 3:14-16)?

3. What is one habit of speech you need God's help to change?

SESSION 6 · JAMES 4:1-17

Humble Before God

James traces quarrels back to desires at war within us and calls us to humble ourselves, draw near to God, and hold our plans loosely.

1. What does James say causes fights and quarrels among us in James 4:1-3?

2. What does it mean that God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble (James 4:6), and why does James call us to submit, resist, and come near (James 4:7-8)?

3. What plan are you holding tightly that you need to place in God's hands?

SESSION 7 · JAMES 5:1-20

Patience and Prayer

James warns the rich who cheat, calls the church to patient endurance until the Lord comes, and ends with prayer for the sick, confession, and turning back the wanderer.

1. What does James say to the rich in James 5:1-6, and what examples of patience does he give in James 5:7-11?

2. Why does James send us to prayer in every season (James 5:13-16), and what does he say about Elijah (James 5:17-18)?

3. Who could you pray for or bring back this week, and what is stopping you?