

James Study Guide – Week 1

Day 1 – Read James 1:1-4

According to James, we should consider it pure joy when we face trials, when we suffer. One pastor I know calls this the art of suffering.

- How can we consider trials and suffering an art form?
- Take a moment to rethink your trials, your suffering. Where is the art? How can you be joyful in the midst of these?

Day 2 – Read James 1:5-8

Along with our trials, James tells us that God will give wisdom to those who ask. But there is a catch. We need to trust Him.

- When it comes to trials and suffering, where do we look for answers and insight?
- Take some time to ask God for help and insight into the trials you are facing. Be expectant and look for His answers, knowing He give generously to all who ask.

Day 3 – Read James 1:9-10

Many times in life, we find confidence in our possessions and celebrated positions. Why does James reverse this trend?

- What are the “humble circumstances in your life?”
- How are these shaping and building you?

Day 4 – Read James 1:12

Reflect back on James 1:2-11.

- What is the end result of trusting God and persevering?
- How does James’ insight give us hope in the midst of our struggles?

Day 5 – James 1:13-18

We are all tempted. Yet, many times we love to play the blame game, especially if we give into temptation.

- According to James, where does temptation come from?
- What is the end result of giving in to temptation?
- Take some time to ask God for His gifts and strength to persevere in the midst of your temptations.

Day 6 – James 1:19-25

In arguments, it is usually the one who doesn’t listen and is quick to speak that gets angry. Instead, James tells us to humbly accept the Word within us and to do what it says. This, he says, can save us.

- What are the things God has revealed to us that we need to follow?
- Take a moment to reflect upon who you are in Christ. Ask Him to help you live out in the midst of your trials and temptations.

Day 7 – James 1:26-27

James reminds us that our actions should reflect our faith. If they do not, our faith is worthless.

- According to James, what is acceptable faith?
- Take some time to reflect on what this means for us today. As followers of Jesus, how should we live?