

James – Lesson 1 Workbook

You've Got Issues

Verses to Remember

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance." James 1:2-3 NIV

Workbook Activity

Trials & Temptations (Part 1)

Write down two or three trials that you are facing today.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Finding Joy in the midst of Trials

How may God be using a trial to stretch and mature you?

Don't be deceived to doubt God, or let your faith in God be shaken.

How can you bring honor and glory to God in the way you handle trials.

James 1:1-18

1. According to James, how should we respond to trials?

2. Why is that an appropriate response?

3. How should we respond to a lack of wisdom?

4. Why should we respond in this way?

5. In humble circumstances, how should we respond?

6. Why take pride in humble circumstances?

7. How should we react to temptation?

8. Why shouldn't we blame God when we are tempted?

Workbook Activity

Trials & Temptations (Part 2)

Write down two or three temptations you are struggling with.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

The Source of Temptation

Temptation does not come from God, but rather your own evil desires.
Do not dwell on the evil desire while ignoring the danger that it poses.
You become your own worse enemy when you start to justify your sin.
When you are disobedient and act on the evil desire it becomes sin.

Combating Temptation

Once you determine that your temptation comes from your own evil desires it will be easier to overcome those temptations.

Pray and be ready – Matthew 26:41
Guard our heart – Proverbs 4:23, Phil 4:8-9
Hide God's word in your heart – Psalm 119:9-11, Romans 1:2, James 4:7

If all else fails, run! – 2 Tim 2:22
You will not run if you haven't done the first three points above.

Remember God is faithful and will provide a way out. – 1 Cor 10:13
God doesn't want us to fail.

Homework:

- Memorize James 1:2-3 and Proverbs 4:23
- Combat temptation and realize that God will provide a way out, if we don't shut the door.
- Look for the positive that may come from the trials you are experiencing today, how may these trials stretch and mature you.

James – Lesson 2 Workbook

My Favorite

Verses to Remember

"My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism." James 2:1 NIV

James 2:1-13

1. What does verse 1 say about favoritism? Why do you think it says that?

2. According to this text, is showing favoritism a sin? (verse 9)

3. Why do you think it is called a sin? Talk about that at your tables or small groups.

4. What example does James give to drive this point home? (verse 2-7)

5. Would you treat a well-dressed, approachable, attractive person who was a lot like you differently than you would a shabby-dressed, stand-offish, unattractive person?

Homework:

- Memorize James 2:1
- Take an honest look at the way you treat others during the next week, do you show favoritism?
- Make a concentrated effort to stop showing favoritism.

James – Lesson 3 Workbook

Watch Your Mouth

Verses to Remember

"Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be." James 3:10 NIV

James 3:1-12

1. What are the three images that James uses to illustrate the tongue?

2. What do those three things have in common?

3. Do you see that playing out in real life, that the tongue influences us so greatly?

MAKING IT REAL

There is no doubt that the tongue is a powerful thing. Wars have been started and ended with words. Friends are made and lost with words.

1. Why do words carry so much power?

2. Why is it so easy to use our tongues for both good and evil?

3. How should a Christian control their tongue according to James?

Homework:

- Memorize James 3:10
- You have the responsibility of controlling your tongue. Refrain from using it in ways which will dishonor God.
- Words have a lasting impact. Starting this week use your words to build others up & refrain from speaking harshly.

James – Lesson 4 Workbook

The Time of Your Life

Verses to Remember

"Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." James 4:14 NIV

James 4:13-17

1. What does James tell us about tomorrow?

2. What does James teach us about life?

3. How would you sum up what James is saying in these verses?

Read Luke 12:22-31

1. What does this passage tell us about our life?

2. What should we do/not do?

Matthew 25:41-46

1. What does this passage tell us about our life?

2. What should we do/not do?

Luke 12:42-48

1. What does this passage tell us about our life?

2. What should we do/not do?

Homework:

- Memorize James 4:14
- This week, take note of how much time you spend on yourself verses how much time you spent on others.
- Start a community service project, visit the elderly in a nursing home or volunteer to help out at church.

James – Lesson 5 Workbook

Must Be The Money

Verses to Remember

"Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you." James 5:1 NIV

James 5:1-11

1. In this letter that we've been studying for five weeks now, who is James talking to?

2. Who does he single out in this passage?

3. What is his tone toward them?

4. Do you consider yourself rich? *Why or why not?*

Here are some quick facts about teenagers in America:

- In 2006, teenagers spent an estimated \$159 billion
- The average teen spent an estimated \$104 per week
- The purchasing power of Americans is almost 2x's that of any other country

You may not think you are rich, but you are. Consider this:

- Half the world, 3 billion people, live on \$2 a day or less
- An estimated 30,000 children die every day because they are poor
- The richest 20% of people in the world (that includes us) consume 86% of the world's goods

You may not think you are rich, but you are. Let me say this plainly, James is talking to YOU. The good news is, the Bible doesn't leave us hanging. It tells us what we should do with our riches.

Put Money In Perspective

Matthew 6:24

1. What do you think the fascination is with money?

2. Why does it matter so much to us?

3. What does this verse say about our allegiance to wealth?

Don't Abuse Money

Luke 3:11-14

1. What abuse of money is John the Baptist talking about?

2. In what ways could someone like you abuse the money the same way?

Don't Depend on Money

Luke 9:1-3

1. Why do you think Jesus sent out his followers with no money?

2. Why is it easy to grow accustomed to depending on money?

Share

Acts 4:32-37

1. Do you find it hard to share? How often do you do it?

2. How can sharing possessions and money be a good thing for a group of people?

True Riches

James 5:7-11

1. Why would it have been important for both of the rich and the poor to hear this message?

2. How serious do you take that remark? How often do you think, "Wow, the Lord is coming."

Homework:

- Memorize James 5:1
- This week, take time to meditate on the Lord's return. Would you joyfully greet Him or would you be ashamed?