

## FURTHER HELP

### JAMES CHAPTER 1

1. If you begin to doubt God during difficult times and trials, what questions might you be asking about Him?
2. What does verse 2 remind you to do when trials arrive? Describe how you feel about taking this kind of action in the middle of a trial.
3. How do trials add to your maturity of faith?
4. What picture does James use to illustrate a doubter? And what is the resulting behavior of a doubter?
5. Why would you hesitate to ask God for wisdom?
6. Where else might a person look for help/wisdom? Where do you look for wisdom?
7. How might becoming rich or becoming poor might test your faith?
8. What besides money is important enough to you to test your faith?
9. How does the word “endure” in verse 12 change your perspective of endurance?
10. What is your greatest temptation? What concrete steps do you take to protect yourself from the temptation?

Bonus idea:

After looking at Chapter 1 write a prayer to God thanking and asking Him for whatever you sense this chapter is speaking to you about at this time in your life.

Bonus Reading: Proverbs on Wisdom: 1:7; 1:20-33; 2:1-12; 3:13-23; 4:3-12; 5:1-2; 7:4-5; 8:1-36; 9:1-6; 9:10-12; 10:13, 23,31; 11:2; 13:10; 14:6; 14:8; 14:33; 15:33; 16:16; 17:16; 17:24; 18:1,4; 19:8; 20:12; 21:30; 23:9; 23:23; 24:3,7; 24:13-14; 29:3; 29:15; 31:26

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### JAMES CHAPTER 2

1. How did you respond to the illustration of a “mirror”?
2. What should the verses about the Word of God being a mirror cause us to do?
3. If you visited the church that James is talking about in v 1-7, what do you think you would see? List some reasons why we behave this way.
4. What is the “royal law” and what is the “law of liberty”?
5. Is favoritism/partiality/snobbery less sinful than adultery or murder?
6. What use is your faith?
7. What are the two words James uses about “faith” without works?
8. Describe “living” faith.
9. When have you offered faith and had no works to follow up?

#### BONUS:

Make a list of some places you claim faith but show no works.

#### BONUS READING:

Work: Prov.10:4; 12:11-12; 14:23; 16:26; 18:9; 22:29; 24:27; 27:18; 28:19;

Works of the Women: Proverbs 31

Riches: Ec 5:10&19; Ps 52:1-7; Job 31:24-25,28; PROV 18:11, 23; Luke 12:15-21; Luke 16:13-14; Matt 19:24; Mark 10:17-27; Prov 11:4,28; 23:4-5; Mark 4:18-19; Deut 6:10-12; 1 Tim 6:9-10,17-19.

## FURTHER HELP

### JAMES CHAPTER 3

1. Who in your house do you have the most trouble communicating with? Why?
2. Can you remember a time when your tongue was a blessing to someone? Describe this blessing.
3. How do you see the theme of “being a doer” in chapter 3?
4. If you could relay the conversation around your table last night, what would your talk reveal about your family? You?
5. What responsibility does God give the teacher in this passage?
6. Why is “disciplined speech” a part of spiritual maturity?
7. Do you have any personal experience with the three illustrations James uses for the tongue (horse, whip, fire)?
8. Can you recall a time when someone spoke to you in a “life-giving direction”?
9. Is there a word, sentence or general conversation you remember that wounded you deeply? When did the conversation take place? Who was the other speaker?
10. How often do you offer praise to God? What are the circumstances?

#### O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES

O for a thousand tongues to sing, My great redeemers praise  
The glories of my God and King, The triumph of His grace

My gracious master and my God, Assist me to proclaim  
To spread through all the earth abroad, The honors of Thy Name.

Bonus References: Prov.14:17; 14:29, 30; 15:18; 16:32; 17:14; 17:27-28; 19:11; 19:19; 5:3-4; 16:27; 26:7; 29:20; Eph 4:29; Eph 5:4; Col 4-6

## FURTHER HELP

### JAMES CHAPTER 4

1. What methods do you use to get what YOU want? What distasteful methods do others use?
2. What causes fighting among Christians (there are 8-10 answers in 4:1-10)?
3. What does murder look like to a believer?
4. What spiritual activities can you think of which might not honor God?
5. How would you describe friendship with the world?
6. What does God offer as friendship?
7. Discuss your thoughts about “judging” one another.
8. How does verse 8 affect your making plans? Short term? Long term?

Review:

Write one paragraph (at least) to describe what you heard God calling you to take action on from the first four chapters of James.

## FURTHER HELP

### James Chapter 5

1. Why does James think the rich will cry and mourn?
2. Is James saying that we should not have wealth?
3. What is wrong with keeping a “bit” in the savings account and making your creditor wait?
4. How many times does James use the root word ‘patience’ in verses 7 to 11?
5. Is there room for complaining?
6. Why is “swearing”, “promising” or “vowing” discouraged?
  - a. Are the people in your world able to take your “yes” or “no” to the bank?
7. James tells us to do 2 things in verse 13. What are they?
8. If you sin, will illness come into your body?
9. Does God promise to heal us?
10. Why or how should we admit our sins to one another?

Encourage one another in professing and practicing faith.

May God add His blessings to the reading and study of the Book of James.

