Open your Memory Logbook to a clean page. Write James 1:5–6 at the top of the page as your title. Write out verse 5 as you read it aloud. Then read it again trying to commit the words to memory. Tomorrow we will copy the second verse.

In unit 1, we learned that this letter from James was written to Jewish believers, his brothers in Christ. He tells all believers to live their lives in such a way that their saving faith is active and not dead. Remember, James gives practical commands to help us mature in our Christian walk.

Read or listen to James 1:2-18, and answer the observation questions.

1. What command does James give in verse 2?

2. What command does James give in verse 6?

Circle these two commands in your Bible. Be on the lookout for the many imperatives throughout the book of James.

Read James 1:2 again and mark the keyword trials/temptations. Trace the Greek word for this keyword.

Refer to the Study Toolbox and answer the questions below.

3. What is the Greek word for trials/temptations? ______________

4. What is the definition of peirasmos? ______________

The trials or adversities we endure can show us how much we trust God.
5. What should you do when your faith is being tested by trials? Decode the phrase to see the command that James gives us. See Creation Symbols on page ix.

6. What does James call a person who does not listen to this command? Read the passage below and underline the answer.

   But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. – James 1:5-8

   **double-minded**  two-souled, unstable

Being double-minded is not walking in faith. You are not praying with faith. James compares praying without faith to the waves in the sea. **Draw a ball on top of the waves in the picture below. Then add a stormy sky above the waves.** Imagine what is happening to the ball during the storm. The picture in your mind of that bobbing ball is an example of a double-minded or unstable man who lacks confidence in God.
Welcome to Explore, the section of our Thrive study where we explore the depths and richness of God’s Word. You will need to complete this Explore portion of the study and memorize the second memory passage in order to prepare for competition.

**THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES**

James knew the teachings of Jesus very well and repeated many of His words in his letter to the Jewish believers. Our memory passage is Matthew 5:10-11. Read verse 12 also to see that those words of Jesus are similar to those in James 1:2. Read Matthew 5:10-11 and mark the keywords.

**Keywords**
- blessed
- rejoice

**Beatitude — Matthew 5:10-12**

1. Find all of the squares and color them yellow. Then write the phrase from Matthew 5:12, in your Memory Logbook. Remember to write the reference.

   Being called names or being made fun of because you love Jesus or read your Bible is a form of persecution. Has that ever happened to you? It is helpful to remember that God is with you at those times and can give you His peace and joy.

2. Once sin is conceived and is full grown, it brings forth ____________.

   **lust/desires** longing for what is forbidden

In each unit we will write a summary statement to sum up the main point of the study passage. Here is an example: "In James 1:12-18 James tells believers to stay faithful during difficult times. Hold on to the joy we have in our Savior, Jesus Christ, because the testing we endure in life will help us grow in our faith."