

A large, gnarled tree with a thick, twisted trunk and dense green foliage. The roots are exposed and glow with a bright golden light, extending into a body of water at the bottom. The background is a dramatic, stormy sky with dark, heavy clouds. The word "Thrive" is written in a large, white, cursive font across the middle of the tree.

# Thrive

SENIOR ANSWER ANCHOR

# DISCOVERY JOURNAL

• SENIOR ANSWER ANCHOR •



TO KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

National Bible Bee *Thrive* Discovery Journal Senior Answer Anchor

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Merriam-Webster online dictionary ([www.merriam-webster.com](http://www.merriam-webster.com)).

Webster's Dictionary 1828 (<https://webstersdictionary1828.com>).

McKim, Donald K. *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*. 1st ed. N.p. Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.

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For more information about resources for studying the Bible or to order additional copies of this resource, visit [www.biblebee.org](http://www.biblebee.org).

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*Dedicated to*  
**SHELBY KENNEDY**

We are all given the opportunity to make an impact on others. Shelby Kennedy always said she wanted her life to be like a pebble that hits a pond and creates a ripple effect. She wanted her love for God and His Word to impact those around her.

Shelby had an infectious gift of faith. She radiated joy, life, and hope to those she met. She was energetic and fun-loving, and she enjoyed adventures, travel, making memories, children, friends, and family. Along with her family, Shelby dedicated her time to bringing the gospel to impoverished people in Mexico and Haiti in spiritual as well as practical ways. She was as dedicated when she was comforting a hurting child as she was when she was hammering nails or painting a wall. She lived out the admonition, "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ" (Col. 3:23-24 ESV).

On May 31, 2005, at the age of twenty-three, Shelby went home to be with the Lord after an intense struggle with cancer. During the most debilitating time of her illness, what energy Shelby had was focused on proclaiming Jesus Christ. Her testimony of hope in the midst of a fiery trial inspired those around her.

Much of what kept Shelby's joy in her last days was the time she spent studying the Word of God. Her life was the inspiration for the Shelby Kennedy Foundation, a nonprofit ministry that began the National Bible Bee in 2009 with the mission to engage young people in the memorization and study of the Bible and provide opportunities to proclaim God's Word through local, national, and broadcast venues.

Though Shelby's earthly life is over, the Word that she loved endures forever. It is the Foundation's hope that the Word will dwell richly in the hearts of the young people of this generation that it may transform generations to come.



*This Discovery Journal is dedicated to Shelby Kennedy  
and her life fully lived for the glory of God.*

# THE GREATEST DISCOVERY

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A relationship with Jesus Christ is life's greatest discovery.

## OUR CREATOR

God created everything. Though one God, He exists in three distinct, yet co-existent and co-equal, Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Our God is infinite, powerful, sovereign, all-knowing, good, and omnipresent, among many other attributes. But most importantly, He is holy—meaning He alone is God; there is none like Him. He created us in His own image and designed us to have fellowship with Him.

*Genesis 1:1, 27; 1 Samuel 2:2; Psalm 95:1-5; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17; Revelation 4:11*

## OUR CONDITION

When tested, man chose to doubt God's goodness and provision. Man's rejection of God brought sin into our lives. The punishment for sin is death—eternal separation from a holy God, the very source of life.

*Genesis 2:17; 3:1-6; Romans 3:23; 6:23*

## GOD RESCUES

However, God had a plan from the beginning for redemption—deliverance from sin. At the appointed time, God sent His Son who became flesh, took on human form, and lived among us. Only the sinless Son of God, Jesus, could be a sufficient sacrifice for the penalty of our sin. Out of love, He took our punishment through death on the cross and then rose again. We can do nothing to provide the remedy or the payment for our sin. We can never try hard enough, work long enough, or be good enough. Trusting in the completed work of Jesus is the only way.

*John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 2:8-9; Colossians 1:19-20; 1 Peter 3:18*

## WE DISCOVER

So how can we be restored to a relationship with God? You can actually rest assured that you don't need to do anything. In fact, you must understand that you can do nothing that would restore yourself to God. If you are striving for salvation, you are missing it. God does all the work in salvation! He provides the faith to believe, and we respond to Him in repentance, turning away from sin and toward obedience to God. Call on His name, and He will give you new life and a change of heart.

*Psalm 32:1-5; Psalm 51; Isaiah 45:22; Jeremiah 29:12-13; Matthew 11:28-30; 16:24; John 6:40; 14:6, 15; Acts 2:36-39; Romans 3:20; 8:1-4, 30; 10:8-10, 13; 1 John 2:1-6*

# OUR VISION

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As part of the vision of The Shelby Kennedy Foundation, “to know God’s Word and make Him known,” the goal of the Discovery Journal is for each student to gain a right understanding of the Scriptures and then apply it to their lives so they may know the one true God as revealed in His Word. Our method of study is designed toward that end.

But even the best methods are unable to accomplish anything apart from the indwelling Holy Spirit, for He was sent to teach us all things (John 14:26). We are sobered, too, by the warning that knowledge puffs up, but love builds up (1 Cor. 8:1). Our hope for those embarking on this journey to discover eternal treasures is this:

...that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. –Philippians 1:9-11 (ESV)



# INTRODUCTION TO THRIVE

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Welcome to *Thrive*! Please don’t skip over this section; it contains information about the *Thrive* Discovery Journal that you will need to know for a successful experience with this Bible study. We look forward to helping you learn and grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

Our study begins with the opening verses of the epistle of James. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the apostle James greets the twelve tribes of Israel and sets the stage for a letter teeming with instruction and encouragement. Scattered throughout the oppressive Roman empire, the Jewish believers are being tested in their faith. Yet rather than watch them wilt in the heat of fiery trials, James urges them to flourish as obedient followers of Christ. He tells them that, if they persevere, their testing will ultimately result in Christian maturity (James 1:3-4).

With this hope-filled reminder as the backdrop, James outlines how the believers can grow toward maturity. He warns them against the deception of sinful desires. He exhorts them to be hearers and doers of the Word. He calls them to love and care for others, putting their faith in action. He encourages them to exhibit heavenly wisdom in their speech and conduct. He reminds them that rather than befriend the world, they must draw near to God in repentance. Finally, James circles back to his initial theme of perseverance and urges the believers to patiently and prayerfully endure as they look for Christ’s return. Drawing from the examples of past faithful saints, James tells his suffering readers to wait for the outcome of the Lord—knowing that the Lord is compassionate and merciful!

James’ Spirit-inspired instructions are remarkably simple. Yet these fundamental truths will help us put feet to our faith and walk in righteousness. Though much of this letter is practical in nature, it teaches us that we have been given spiritual birth through the Word of Truth (James 1:18). As we continue in the Word, our lives will bear fruit.

In the epistle of James, we learn that testing produces perseverance, resulting in maturity that proves the genuineness of our faith. When put to the test, true faith does not merely survive. Authentic faith thrives!

Our prayer at the National Bible Bee is that you believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that you trust Him as the One who began and will complete your faith. Ultimately, our desire is for you to "know God's Word and make Him known." May the *Thrive* study draw you closer to the Lord Jesus Christ!

## DISCOVERY JOURNAL OVERVIEW

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This Discovery Journal is gospel-focused. Scripture clearly reveals both the sinful condition of man and God's triumphant plan for the redemption of mankind.

The *Thrive* study includes eight units. Units 1-7 include a title page and a *Launch* page followed by five lessons, each with *Navigate* and *Explore* sections. Unit 8 is a review of Units 1-7, complete with quizzes.

### TITLE PAGE

The title page of each unit includes the Discovery Destination (a particular focus on how believers should live before God) and the Key Verses (the main point or message of the study passage).

### LAUNCH PAGE

The following elements are unique to the *Thrive* study and are included in each unit. You will find an overview of each section on the *Launch* page to serve as an easy reference for you in your Bible study or review of each unit.

#### Prayer

Each unit begins with a focus on prayer. Using the acronym **PRAY**—**P**raise, **R**epent, **A**sk, **Y**ield—you will spend time preparing your heart through prayer for the study of Scripture. You won't want to skip this important step in your Bible study.

#### Background Study

Each *Navigate* Lesson 2 provides background information such as history, geography, culture, or sociology, bringing to life the Bible study.

#### Teachings of Jesus in James

In each *Navigate* Lesson 3, we will learn how some of the teachings of Christ in the Gospels correlate with James' Spirit-inspired imperatives. We will also refer to the book of Proverbs to find a pearl of wisdom relating to the epistle of James.

#### Discovery Destination

In each *Navigate* Lesson 4, we will focus on an aspect of Christian maturity revealed in that unit's study passage. As we dig deep into these qualities, we will also look to Jesus as our ultimate example of maturity.

## People of Faith

The Bible is replete with inspiring examples of faithful saints who have gone before. Amid overwhelming challenges and trials, these men and women thrived in authentic faith. *Explore* Lesson 4 is devoted to studying some of their Scriptural accounts so that we might be challenged to walk in the path of faith blazed for us.

## PRAYER PAGE

God desires a relationship with His people, and prayer is His gracious provision. As we daily prepare our hearts through prayer to study God's Word, we will focus on a truth about the Lord revealed in the epistle of James. As our understanding of His character grows, so will our love for and adoration of Him. Our God is light; He is our father; the Lord is glorious; He is one God; and He is our creator, Lawgiver, and warrior.



## NAVIGATE

The *Navigate* section begins each lesson. You can complete this part in as little as twenty minutes. It includes a *Navigate* memory passage as well as various study methods to unlock the truth and discover the treasures of God's Word.



## EXPLORE

The *Explore* section takes the study to a deeper level and provides you with an additional memory passage. You can complete *Explore* on the same day as *Navigate* or on another day.

## STUDY & MEMORY PASSAGES

The study passages, which are the Bible text for each unit, are located in the lesson headings. The memory passages are also included in the heading of each lesson—one memory passage for the *Navigate* lesson and one for *Explore*. You should read and study your memory passages daily. All *Navigate* memory passages are taken from the study passage. *Explore* memory passages are taken from Lesson 4 of each unit, "People of Faith."

# ESSENTIAL HELPS

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## STUDY METHODS

The *Navigate* and *Explore* sections in each unit include five lessons in which you will use these methods to dive into Bible study: *Read & Observe* (Lessons 1 & 2), *Interpret* (Lesson 3), *Apply* (Lesson 4), and *Review* (Lesson 5). We may use a combination of methods in each lesson.

### READ & OBSERVE Lessons 1 & 2

When we read the Scriptures, various tools help us to "observe" or understand what we're reading. We use these tools in the Discovery Journal:

- Keywords, word studies, definitions
- Observations questions (the 5 Ws and an H questions)
- Comparisons and contrasts
- Themes
- Outlines

## Observation Questions

The 5 Ws and an H questions ask *Who? What? When? Where? Why?* and *How?* They help you observe and comprehend the passages.

## Keywords

When you are asked to mark keywords, you should mark all forms of the keywords. For example, when asked to mark **pray**, also mark “prays,” “prayed,” “praying,” “prayers,” etc.

## INTERPRET Lessons 3

Using the Bible to interpret Scripture, we'll use these study tools:

- Context
- Cross-references (other Bible verses)
- Literary techniques
- Parallel passages (to compare and contrast biblical ideas)

## APPLY Lessons 4

The *Apply* lesson focuses on the application of a right understanding of God's Word. We'll study how those who have believed in Jesus Christ live out their faith as children of God.

## REVIEW Lessons 5

The final lesson is a review that includes a variety of activities and a quiz.

## STUDY RESOURCES

To complete the study, you'll need either hardcopies or online versions of these resources:

- A Bible that can be highlighted (NASB, ESV, KJV, NKJV, or NIV)
- *Merriam-Webster's Dictionary*
- *Vine's Expository Dictionary*
- *Blue Letter Bible* ([blueletterbible.org](http://blueletterbible.org))
- *The Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible* (KJV edition) (also referred to as *Strong's*)
- *Outline of Biblical Usage*
- *Webster's Dictionary 1828*

You will also need a notebook, Bible highlighters, and pencils or pens.

## How to Complete Word Studies

Throughout each unit, you will research keywords to learn about their meanings. Word studies will direct you to definitions in Hebrew and Greek, the original languages of the Bible, to gain a deeper understanding of the meaning of the word. You'll see word study exercises that look like this except the words in red, which are the answers:

Complete the word study to learn about the word **believe**.



believe (John 1:7)

Strong's #: **G4100**

Greek word: **pisteuō**

Strong's Definition: **to have faith (in, upon, or with respect to, a person or thing), i.e. credit; by implication, to entrust (especially one's spiritual well-being to Christ)**

When you write the *Strong's* number, you should preface it with either the letter H (for Hebrew) or the letter G (for Greek) as shown above. Then write the meaning using the specified source. When using the *Strong's* definition, do *not* include the words that follow the colon.

You may complete the word studies by using an online resource. For instructions, please go to [www.biblebee.org/studytools](http://www.biblebee.org/studytools).

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. - 2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

Studying God's Word is foundational to our Christian walk. The Bible is composed of sixty-six individual books, written by forty God-inspired authors over a span of 1,500 to 2,000 years. Read what Paul had to say about the Author of and the purposes for Scripture:

All Scripture is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness. - 2 Timothy 3:16 (NASB)

### **But before you study, you must ask yourself this most important question...*Do I Believe?***

Hopefully, studying the Bible begins with a relationship with Jesus Christ—which is the greatest discovery you can make. That journey begins with recognizing that God is Creator and that you are created in His image (Gen. 1:27). Sin entered the world through the disobedience of man, which eternally separates us from a holy God.

Yet from the beginning of time, God had a plan for redemption—Jesus Christ (Gal. 4:4-5). Only the sinless Son of God could provide the payment for our sins by His death on the cross. It is God's grace, not our good works, that offers the gift of eternal life for those who trust in Christ (Eph. 2:8-9). When you call on the name of the Lord, you will discover new life in Christ with the promise to live eternally with Him (Rom. 10:8-10).

We pray that you have responded to God's call by believing in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. Welcome now to the *Thrive* study.

## UNIT 1

# Thrive in Tests

### DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Maturity: Grow in Perseverance

### KEY VERSES

*Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.*

*And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. -James 1:2-4 (NASB)*

# LAUNCH • UNIT 1

## OVERVIEW

The apostle James opens his letter to the scattered Jewish believers with a call to regard their suffering with joy. He reminds them that through perseverance, the testing of their faith will result in maturity. With warmth and candor, James exhorts the believers to thrive in trials and temptations.

- **PRAYER**

God Is Light—James 1:17

Psalm 104:1-2; Psalm 90:8 and 1 John 1:5-7;

Micah 7:7-9; Ephesians 5:8-11

- **BACKGROUND STUDY**

History: The Dispersion of the Jews

- **TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES**

- **DISCOVERY DESTINATION**

Maturity: Grow in Perseverance

- **PEOPLE OF FAITH**

Hall of Faith—Hebrews 11:1-22

### THRIVE DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Christian Maturity

### THRIVE KEY VERSES

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*

—James 1:2-4 (NIV)

## STUDY PASSAGE

James 1:1-18



### NAVIGATE MEMORY PASSAGE

James 1:2-5



### EXPLORE MEMORY PASSAGE

Hebrews 11:13-16

## KEY VERSES

James 1:2-4



Key Verses



Keywords



Word Studies



Definitions



Themes



Geography



# PRAYER • UNIT 1

Before you begin your Discovery Journal lesson each day, pray using the verses provided. Then journal your prayers below using the acronym **PRAY**—Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield.

**Praise:** We declare our praises to God for who He is and what He has done.

**Repent:** We go to the Lord and confess and turn from our sin.

**Ask:** We pray specific petitions for our needs and for others.

**Yield:** We respond to the prompting of the Lord by submitting our thoughts and desires to Him.

Our prayer focus for each unit will be a truth about God. Each section of James reveals our Lord’s character and deepens our understanding of Him. May embracing these truths move your heart to worship and love Him more!

## God Is Light James 1:17

Prepare your heart for the study of Scripture by focusing on the Father of lights, who does not change like the shifting shadows! We have given a few examples for prayer prompts.

<b>Praise</b> —Read Psalm 104:1-2. Praise our God who enfolds Himself in light!
• <i>Lord, you are very great!</i>
• <i>You are clothed with splendor and majesty.</i>
•
<b>Repent</b> —Read Psalm 90:8 and 1 John 1:5-7. Even our secret sins are exposed in God’s presence. Confess your wrongdoings and purpose to walk in the light.
• <i>Lord, I confess that _____ was not the right choice.</i>
• <i>Guide me to walk in the light of Your way.</i>
•
<b>Ask</b> —Read Micah 7:7-9. Ask the Lord to increase your trust in Him during times of darkness.
• <i>Help me to have patience when I am waiting for You to answer my prayers.</i>
• <i>Give me wisdom to help me when I don’t understand something.</i>
•
<b>Yield</b> —Read Ephesians 5:8-11. Are you walking as a child of light? Submit your heart to do what pleases your heavenly Father.
• <i>Help me to walk in Your light in the area of _____.</i>
• <i>May I shine Your light by being willing to expose darkness.</i>
•



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 1, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 1:2-5

The epistle of James was directed to the scattered Jewish believers. Called the “Proverbs of the New Testament,” its generous use of adages distinguishes it from every other New Testament epistle. James’ letter has over fifty imperatives to help believers grow in Christ.

The *Thrive* Discovery Journal will guide us through a study of this truth-loaded epistle. We will learn practical ways to confidently live out our faith, even in trying times!

Starting with the *Navigate* lesson, our objective is to employ the *Read & Observe* method by reading the assigned Scripture passages, marking the keywords, completing the word studies, and using other observation tools to understand the text. The *Explore* lesson takes a more in-depth look into the Word of God.

- 🔍 Read the study passage, James 1:1-18, and mark the key verses, James 1:2-4, in your Bible.
- 🔍 Mark the keywords **trials/temptations, testing/trying, faith, and tempted**. Using your word study tools, complete the word studies.

🔍 **trials/temptations (James 1:2)** Strong’s #: **G3986** Greek word: **peirasmos**

Strong’s Definition: **a putting to proof (by experiment (of good), experience (of evil), solicitation, discipline or provocation); by implication, adversity**

🔍 **tempted (James 1:13a)** Strong’s #: **G3985** Greek word: **peirazō**

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition II.3: **to try or test one's faith, virtue, character, by enticement to sin** Definition II.3.A: **to solicit to sin, to tempt**

These two Greek words are closely related. In the context of the study passage, however, their meanings are different. The word *peirasmos* refers to an outward struggle with adversity, and *peirazō* refers to an inner battle with sin.

**Complete the Thrive cipher (see p. 114) to discover the titles for each section of James 1:1-18. These titles reflect the two types of tests discussed in the study passage.**

James 1:1-12 Thrive in  → T r i a l s

James 1:13-18 Thrive in  → T e m p t a t i o n s

**Answer the following questions based on the study passage.**

1. What should be the response to trials (v. 2)? **AWV. (Answers will vary.) Joy**
  2. Verse 5 tells us to ask (lit., keep on asking) for wisdom. In light of the previous verses, what might wisdom be helpful for? **AWV. Trials and testing of our faith**
  3. What is God's response to the request for wisdom? **AWV. He gives generously and without reproach.**
  4. How is the one who doubts and wavers described in verse 8? **Doubleminded, unstable in all his ways/all they do**
- ⊖ According to *Strong’s* Dictionary, “double-minded” means “vacillating (in opinion or purpose).”
5. In contrast, how is the Father of lights described (v. 17)? **AWV. He has no variation or shadow of turning.**
  6. What will the person who endures trials receive (v. 12)? **The crown of life**
- 🔍 **To conclude this lesson, look back through the study passage and mark all references to Deity.**



# EXPLORE • UNIT 1, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:13-16

- Reread James 1:1-12 and mark the keywords **endurance/steadfastness/patience/perseverance**, **perfect/mature**, and **wisdom**.

James 1:4 reveals both the purpose of our trials and the theme of James' epistle. **Read this verse again, then complete the word studies to understand the goal of adversity.**

**endurance/steadfastness/patience/perseverance (James 1:4)**

Strong's #: **G5281**      Greek word: **hypomonē**

Strong's Definition: cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition 1.1: in the NT the characteristic of a man who is not swerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings

**perfect/mature (James 1:4b)**      Strong's #: **G5046**      Greek word: **teleios**

Strong's Definition: complete (in various applications of labor, growth, mental and moral character, etc.);... completeness

In this short epistle, *teleios* is used five times. A related Hebrew word, *tām*, is used in the Old Testament to describe God's servant Job (Job 1:1).

James 1:3-4 shows how *teleios* can be achieved. **Unscramble the letters to reveal the progression.**


**intgset** → testing + **eedrunca** → endurance = **maturity**

We cannot mature without God's help. As we learned in *Navigate* Lesson 1, His wisdom is the crucial compass for navigating our tests of faith. The epistle of 1 Peter offers a treasure chest of wisdom to help us practice endurance in trials. **Using the cross-references, complete the table below.**

Reference	Type of Test	Our Response
1 Peter 2:20-21	Suffering for doing good	<b>AWV. Patiently endure/take it.</b>
1 Peter 3:9	<b>AWV. Being insulted/reviled/railed on</b>	Repay with a blessing.
1 Peter 3:16	Evil spoken against you	<b>AWV. Have a good conscience.</b>
1 Peter 4:12-13	<b>AWV. The fiery trial</b>	Don't be surprised; rejoice!
1 Peter 4:16	Suffering as a Christian	<b>AWV. Don't be ashamed; glorify/praise God.</b>
1 Peter 5:8-9	Attacks from the devil	<b>AWV. Resist him.</b>

**Read the verse, unscramble the letters, and fill in the blanks to learn what we should do in suffering.**

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should **imomct** commit themselves to their faithful Creator and **nuoientc** continue to do good. -1 Peter 4:19 (NIV)





# NAVIGATE • UNIT 1, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 1:2-5

## BACKGROUND STUDY • History: The Dispersion of the Jews

**Read the study passage and mark the keywords **tribes** and **dispersed/Dispersion/scattered**. Also mark all nouns of direct address referring to the recipients.**

According to *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*, "dispersion" is a "(Gr. 'a scattering') Term for Jews living outside Palestine after the Babylonian exile (586 B.C.) and at other times."

The dispersion of the Jews, also known as the Diaspora, transpired over a period of centuries, as God sent His people into different exiles because they disobeyed. These deported Israelites established settlements around the Great (Mediterranean) Sea; they stretched from the ancient Middle East, west to North Africa and Rome. Many of these nations are listed in Act 2:9-11.

Because of the Christian persecution in the first century, many Jewish believers fled to these Jewish settlements in the Roman Empire, and Christianity rapidly spread to the known world.

Thus, the Dispersion should be understood within two contexts. In the Old Testament, the Israelites were dispersed because of their disobedience to God; and in the New Testament, the Christian Jews were scattered by persecution. Ultimately, James' audience was dispersed throughout the Roman Empire for both reasons.

The Jewish people were strangers in both a literal and spiritual sense. As Israelites, they waited for God to return them to their homeland; but as Christians, they waited for Christ to gather them in heaven. During their time of exile, the suffering saints were exhorted to persevere toward maturity in Christ.

**Read the references to discover locations of both Old and New Testament dispersions. On the map below, circle the locations named in the references.**

2 Kings 17:6-7    Psalm 137:1-4    Acts 2:9-11  
Acts 8:1    Acts 11:19    1 Peter 1:1-2





# EXPLORE • UNIT 1, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:13-16

Sometimes we are tested by outward adversity; other times we are tested by inward temptation. In this lesson, we will focus on the latter and how we can thrive in spite of it.

- 🔍 **Reread James 1:13-18 and mark the keywords *carried/lured/drawn/dragged away, lust/desire, and firstfruits.***

Review the word study for “tempted” in *Navigate Lesson 1* before completing the following word study.

- 🔍 **carried/lured/drawn/dragged away (James 1:14)** Strong’s #: **G1828** Greek word: **exelkō**

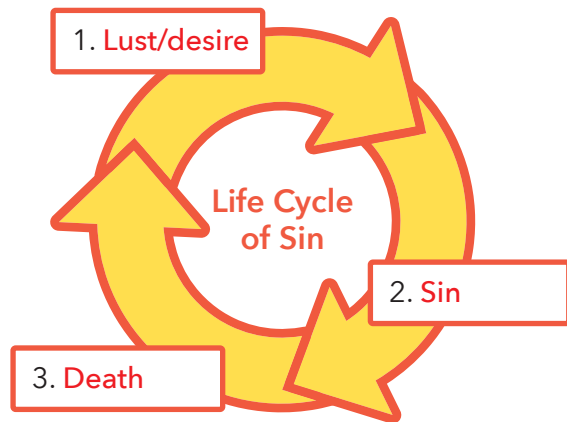
*Outline of Biblical Usage* Definition II: metaph. lure forth: in hunting and fishing as game is lured from its hiding place, so man by lure is allured from the safety of self-restraint to sin. In Jas 1:14, the language of the hunting is transferred to the seduction of a harlot.

1. How is "temptation" defined in verse 14? **AWV. Someone being carried away and enticed by their own desires**
2. What does sin result in? **Death**
3. According to Proverbs 14:12, how does the way leading to death initially seem? **Right**
4. According to Proverbs 22:3, how does the prudent person respond to danger? **He sees/foreseeth/foresees it and hides/hideth himself/takes refuge.**

Using the nouns in verse 15, fill in the blanks to summarize the stages in the life cycle of sin.

James 1:17-18 paints a hope-filled contrast to the destructive outcome of man’s sinful desires. Complete the summary using James 1:15-18 and the cross-references provided.

In contrast to sin’s consequences, the gifts from above are good and perfect. Ultimately, man’s desires bring forth death, but God’s will gives birth to new life. Man’s desires are deceptive; but God’s will gives birth through the Word of Truth, which is the gospel of our salvation (Eph. 1:13). This Word lives forever and has been preached to us (1 Peter 1:23-25). We were begotten through the Word so we could be a kind of firstfruits among His creatures, being consecrated to Him.



- 🔍 **firstfruits (James 1:18)** Strong’s #: **G536** Greek word: **aparchē**

*Outline of Biblical Usage* Definition II: to take away the firstfruits of the productions of the earth which was offered to God. The first portion of the dough, from which sacred loaves were to be prepared. Hence term used of persons consecrated to God for all time.

When we are reborn in Christ, God gives us a new heart, a new spirit, and new desires (Ezek. 36:26-27). He empowers us to resist temptation and walk in our identity in Jesus!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 1, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 1:2-5

Because God's Word is one message, interpreting Scripture with Scripture is foundational to successful Bible study. In *Navigate* Lesson 3 of each unit, we will use cross-references to research certain words or themes in the study passage. Doing this will both deepen our understanding of James and broaden our comprehension of God's Word as a whole!

**Read the key verses, James 1:2-4. Review the word study for "perfect/mature" in *Explore Lesson 1*, then match each reference to the correct statement to learn more about *teleios*.**

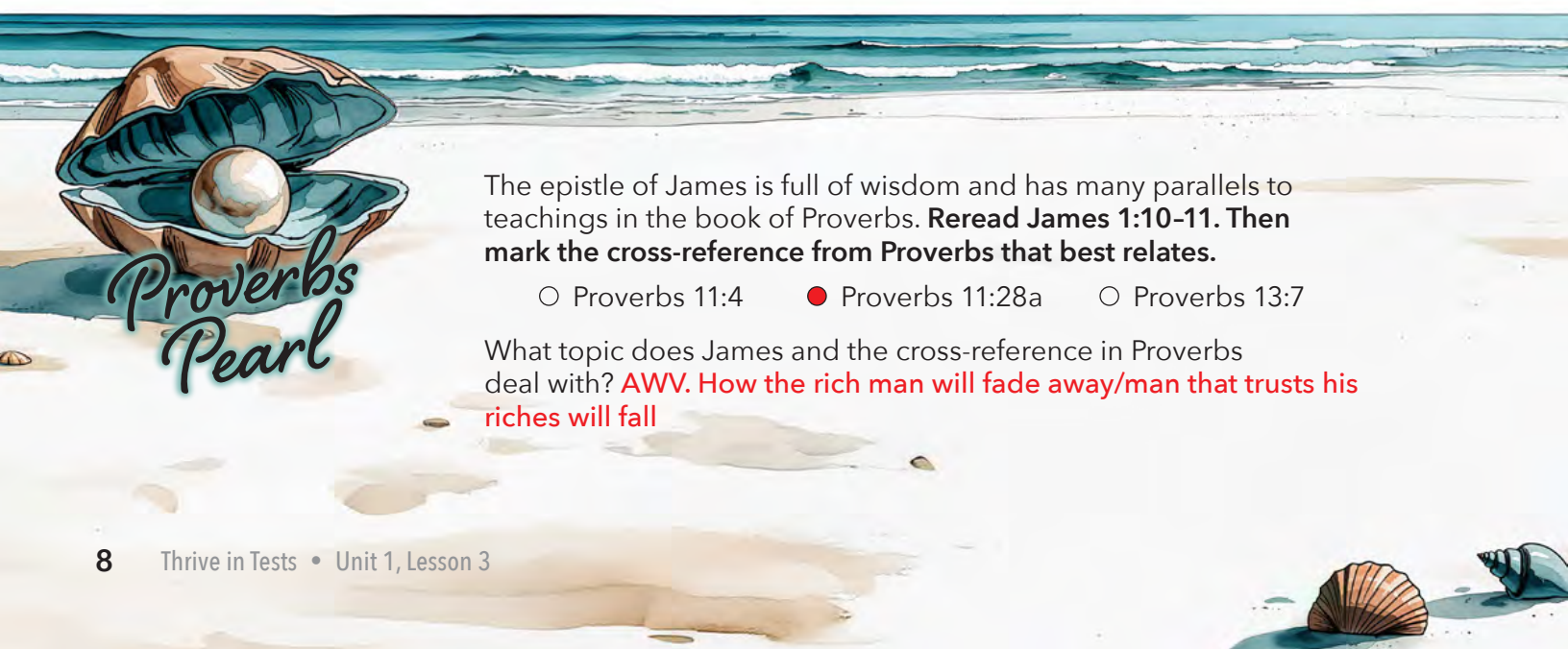
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|---|------------------------|
| <u>  a  </u> 1. Maturity involves sacrifice.                | a. Matthew 19:21       |
| <u>  f  </u> 2. Mature love does not contain fear.          | b. 1 Corinthians 2:6   |
| <u>  e  </u> 3. Discernment is a mark of maturity.          | c. 1 Corinthians 14:20 |
| <u>  b  </u> 4. Wisdom is for those who are mature.         | d. Philippians 3:12-15 |
| <u>  c  </u> 5. Our thinking should reflect maturity.       | e. Hebrews 5:14        |
| <u>  d  </u> 6. Maturity involves pressing toward the goal. | f. 1 John 4:18         |

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

James is a short epistle brimming with practical insights and wisdom for the Christian community. Many of the tenets in James relate to the teachings of Jesus in the Gospels. **Use the references to complete Jesus' teachings. Match James' tenets with those teachings.**

James 1:2    James 1:5    James 1:10-11

Tenet of James	Teaching of Jesus
James 1:10-11	"Do not lay up for yourselves <u>treasures</u> on <u>earth</u> , where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in <u>heaven</u> " (Matt. 6:19-20a NKJV).
James 1:2	"When others revile you and <u>persecute</u> you and utter all kinds of evil against you.... <u>Rejoice</u> and be glad" (Matt. 5:11-12a ESV).
James 1:5	" <u>Ask</u> , and it will be <u>given</u> to you" (Matt. 7:7a NASB).



The epistle of James is full of wisdom and has many parallels to teachings in the book of Proverbs. **Reread James 1:10-11. Then mark the cross-reference from Proverbs that best relates.**

- Proverbs 11:4   
 Proverbs 11:28a   
 Proverbs 13:7

What topic does James and the cross-reference in Proverbs deal with? **AWW. How the rich man will fade away/man that trusts his riches will fall**



# EXPLORE • UNIT 1, LESSON 3

**Interpret** | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:13-16

**🔑** In the study passage, we learn that God never tempts His people. He does test them, however. What is the difference? While the enemy's goal in temptation is sin, God's goal in testing is maturity (James 1:3-4). **Read Exodus 16:4 and mark the keyword test/prove.**

**🔍 test/prove (Ex. 16:4)** Strong's #: **H5254** Hebrew word: **nāsâ**

Strong's Definition: **a primitive root; to test; by implication, to attempt**

In the Old Testament, *nāsâ* is the Hebrew word that expresses God's testing of His people. Note that some versions translate *nāsâ* as "tempt."

**Read the following cross-references to *nāsâ* and complete the table to discover what is accomplished by God's testing of His people.**

Reference	Purpose of the Test
Exodus 16:4	<b>AWV. To see if they will walk in God's instruction</b>
Exodus 20:20	<b>AWV. So God's fear will remain in them, so they will not sin</b>
Deuteronomy 8:2	<b>AWV. To know what was in their heart and if they would obey</b>
Deuteronomy 8:16	<b>AWV. To do them good in the end</b>
Deuteronomy 13:3	<b>AWV. To know whether they love God with all their heart and soul</b>

God not only refrains from tempting believers, He actually provides a way of escape in their temptation. The cross-references and questions below will help you know how to respond to temptation and experience God's provision to overcome it.

**Read Proverbs 4:23-27.**

1. What are we to do with our heart? **Watch over/keep/guard it.**
2. Where should our eyes look? **Directly ahead/forward/right on/straight ahead**

**Read Luke 22:31-32.**

3. What did Jesus pray for Simon? **AWV. That his faith would not fail**

**Read 1 Corinthians 10:12-13.**

4. Who must be careful to not fall? **AWV. The one who thinks he stands**
5. What kind of temptations do we experience? **Something/that is/such as/what is common to mankind/man**
6. What attribute of God is mentioned in relation to our temptations? **AWV. His faithfulness**
7. What does God provide? **The/a way of/to escape/out**

**Read Hebrews 4:15-16.**

8. How is Jesus similar to us? **AWV. He has been tempted in every respect as we are.**
9. How is He different from us? **He is without/did not sin.**
10. What do we find at the throne of grace? **Mercy and grace**

In spite of the sinful desires that entice us, our faithful Savior provides the help necessary for our deliverance. May we approach His throne with confidence in the hour of temptation!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 1, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 1:2-5

## DISCOVERY DESTINATION • Maturity: Grow in Perseverance

The Discovery Destination lesson expounds on an important theme from the study passage that is integral to Christian maturity. In this unit's lesson, we will look at perseverance—the quality we should practice during the testing of our faith.

Read Hebrews 12:1-3 and mark the keywords **endured** and **perfecter/finisher**.

1. Whom do we look to as we endure our race? **Jesus**
2. According to verse 2, what did Jesus endure? **The cross**
3. Why did He persevere? **For the joy set/that was set before Him**
4. According to verse 3, why should we consider Him? **AWV. So you will not become weary or fainthearted**
5. In Proverbs 24:10, what does fainting in adversity say about our strength? **It is meager/small.**
6. In Hebrews 12:2, what two titles are given to Jesus? **Originator/founder/author/pioneer, perfecter/finisher of the/our faith**

**perfecter/finisher (Heb. 12:2)** Strong's #: **G5051** Greek word: **teleiōtēs**

Strong's Definition: a **completer**, i.e. consummator

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition II: one who has in his own person raised faith to its **perfection** and so set before us the **highest** **example** of faith

Although Hebrews 12:1-3 is the only place in the Bible that *teleiōtēs* is found, its adjective form, *teleios*, is the Greek word for "mature" in James. By connecting these passages, we discover the secret of persevering toward maturity: looking to the One who is mature! Jesus both began and will complete our faith. Through His own suffering, He left an example for us to follow (1 Peter 2:21).

Read the following cross-references and match to the appropriate statement describing Christ's perseverance in His suffering.

- a. Isaiah 42:4    b. Isaiah 50:5-7    c. Matthew 26:37-39    d. Luke 9:51  
e. John 12:27-28    f. John 14:30-31    g. Hebrews 5:7-9

- |   |  |
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| <u>  c  </u> He surrendered to His Father's will.                           | <u>  e  </u> He wanted His Father to be glorified. |
| <u>  f  </u> He knew the ruler of this world (Satan) had no power over Him. | <u>  d  </u> He went resolutely to Jerusalem.      |
| <u>  b  </u> He set His face like a flint.                                  | <u>  a  </u> He would not become discouraged.      |
| <u>  g  </u> He learned obedience through suffering.                        |  |

The word "theme" is defined in the dictionary as "a subject or topic of discourse." Repetitive words often suggest a theme for a Bible passage. Below is a sample of a theme from Unit 1.

*The goal of trials is Christian maturity reached through perseverance.*



# EXPLORE • UNIT 1, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:13-16

## PEOPLE OF FAITH • Hall of Faith—Hebrews 11:1-22

James underscores the value of learning from our forefathers, mentioning five Old Testament people by name. In keeping with this theme, *Explore* Lesson 3 of each unit will focus on Old Testament individuals who demonstrated resilient trust. In difficult trials, their faith thrived!

The following lesson features men and women whose names are found in Hebrews 11, commonly known as the “Hall of Faith” chapter. Against overwhelming odds, these individuals passed the test of their faith and exemplified a good testimony as a result.

- 🔗 **Read Hebrews 11:1-22 and mark the keywords **faith** and **gained approval/received their commendation/obtained a good report/testimony/were commended**.**

🔍 **gained approval/received their commendation/obtained a good report/testimony/were commended (Heb. 11:2)**

Strong’s #: **G3140**

Greek word: **martyreō**

Strong’s Definition: **to be a witness, i.e. testify (literally or figuratively)**

**Match each person with the statement describing his testimony of faith.**

  **b**   Abel

  **f**   Enoch

  **d**   Noah

  **a**   Abraham

  **g**   Sarah

  **c**   Isaac

  **e**   Jacob

  **h**   Joseph

a. He looked forward to a city built by God.

b. God accepted his sacrifice and commended him.

c. He blessed his sons regarding the future.

d. He became an heir of righteousness.

e. He worshiped as he died.

f. He was pleasing to God.

g. She considered Him faithful who had promised.

h. He mentioned the exodus of the children of Israel.

1. According to verse 13, although they did not receive the promises, how did the people of old die? **In faith/still living by faith**
2. Why did they not receive what was promised (Heb. 11:39-40)? **AWV. God had provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.**

**Read the verses and fill in the blanks to discover what God had planned for us.**

But when the   **set**     **time**   had fully come, God sent his Son...  
 to   **redeem**   those under the law, that we might receive adoption  
 to   **sonship**  . -Galatians 4:4-5 (NIV)

Many Hall of Faith heroes were part of Christ’s lineage. Thus, their individual journeys were integral to the roadmap of redemption—God’s purpose to send the Savior of the world!

**Complete the Braille cipher to reveal the result of exercising faith amid difficulty.**

From a →   **t e s t**  

to a →   **t e s t i m o n y**  !



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 1, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 1:2-5

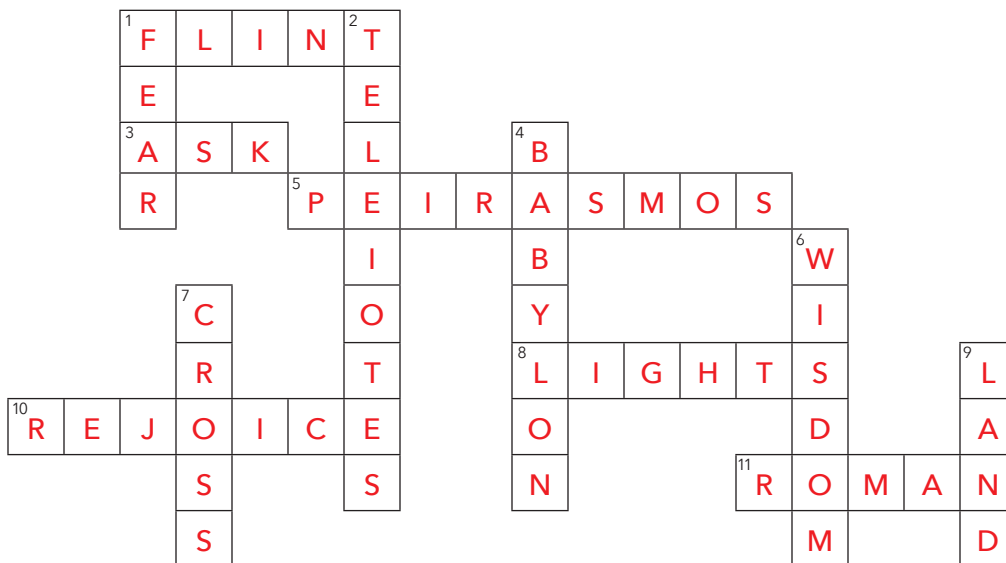
Complete the crossword puzzle to review this unit.

## ACROSS

- Jesus set His face like a flint.
- When we ask for wisdom, it will be given to us.
- The Greek word for trials/temptations **peirasmos**
- The name for God found in James 1:17, Father of lights
- We are to rejoice when we are reviled and persecuted.
- The empire where the Jews lived during the time of James' letter **Roman**

## DOWN

- Mature love does not contain fear.
- Greek word related to *teleios* in James **teleiōtēs**
- Where the Jews were in exile in Psalm 137:1-4 **Babylon**
- What we should ask God for in trials **Wisdom**
- Jesus endured the cross.
- The Israelites waited for God to return them to their own land.



## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Recite your memory passage, James 1:2-5. How can you shift your focus from your trial to the goal of maturity?

To apply what you have learned in this unit, complete and initial one activity.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Commit to praying for wisdom every day next week.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Reach out to someone needing encouragement.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Prayerfully write out the testimony you want your life to result in (look at Hebrews 11 for ideas).



# EXPLORE • UNIT 1, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:13-16

Review this unit before answering the questions.

### True or False

- T   1. The people of faith in Hebrews 11 died without receiving the promises.
- F   2. First Peter 4:19 says to commit our souls to our faithful shepherd.
- F   3. According to Proverbs 14:12, the way leading to death initially seems pleasant.
- T   4. Sarah considered Him faithful who had promised.
- F   5. In the epistle of James, *teleios* is used three times.

### Matching

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <u>  e  </u> 6. Repay evil with a blessing.  | a. Deuteronomy 13:3 |
| <u>  b  </u> 7. A prudent man foresees danger and takes refuge.  | b. Proverbs 22:3    |
| <u>  d  </u> 8. The Word of Truth is the gospel of our salvation.  | c. Galatians 4:4-5  |
| <u>  c  </u> 9. God sent His Son to redeem those under the law.  | d. Ephesians 1:13   |
| <u>  a  </u> 10. God tests His people to know whether they love Him with all their heart and all their soul. | e. 1 Peter 3:9      |

### Fill in the Blank

- 11. The Greek word *hypomonē* means “ cheerful (or hopeful) endurance.”
- 12. The Greek word for “carried/lured/drawn/dragged away” is exelkō.
- 13. A Hebrew word used in the Old Testament to describe Job is tām.
- 14. According to 1 Corinthians 10:12-13, God is faithful.
- 15. By his faith, Noah became an heir of righteousness.

### KNOW GOD’S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

James 1:5 reminds us that God is generous. His greatest demonstration of this attribute was seen when He offered the most priceless gift—the life of His only Son (Rom. 8:32). Those who accept this gift become the recipients of God’s generosity, not just on earth, but forever. They are given everything related to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3) and are promised an eternity filled with the riches of His grace (Eph. 2:7). What a generous God we serve!

**Ponder:** As God’s image bearer, are you reflecting His generous nature in your attitude and actions?

Write down some areas of your life that can be impacted by embracing God’s generosity.

**Recite:** Memory passage, Hebrews 11:13-16





## UNIT 2

# Thrive in the Word

### DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Maturity: Grow as Hearers and Doers

### KEY VERSES

*Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.*

*But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*

-James 1:21-22 (NKJV)

# LAUNCH • UNIT 2

## OVERVIEW

To grow in maturity, a Christian must grow in God's Word. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, James calls believers to lay aside wickedness and humbly receive the implanted Word. He calls them to not merely hear, but also to obey the Word they have been given.

- **PRAYER**

God Is Our Father—James 1:27  
John 1:12 and 1 John 3:1; Hebrews 12:5-6;  
Matthew 7:11; Romans 8:13-15

- **BACKGROUND STUDY**

History: James, the Author

- **TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES**

- **DISCOVERY DESTINATION**

Maturity: Grow as Hearers and Doers

- **PEOPLE OF FAITH**

Moses—Hebrews 11:23-29

## STUDY PASSAGE

James 1:19-27



## NAVIGATE MEMORY PASSAGE

James 1:21-22



## EXPLORE MEMORY PASSAGE

Hebrews 11:24-26

## KEY VERSES

James 1:21-22



Key Verses



Keywords



Word Studies



Definitions



Themes



Geography



# PRAYER • UNIT 2

Before you begin your Discovery Journal lesson each day, pray using the verses provided. Then journal your prayers below using the acronym **PRAY**—**P**raise, **R**epent, **A**sk, **Y**ield.



Prepare your heart for the study of Scripture by focusing on God our father. Through the sacrifice of Jesus, those who believe become children of God!

<b>Praise</b> —Read John 1:12 and 1 John 3:1. Praise God for His deep love that made us His own!
•
•
•
<b>Repent</b> —Read Hebrews 12:5-6. Consider God’s loving discipline in your life. What sin is He calling you to turn from?
•
•
•
<b>Ask</b> —Read Matthew 7:11. Your heavenly Father delights to give you good things! Freely bring your requests to Him.
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•
•
<b>Yield</b> —Read Romans 8:13-15. As God’s child, submit your life to be led by His Spirit!
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•
•



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: James 1:21-22

In the last unit, we learned that God gave us a new birth through the Word of Truth. In Unit 2, we will observe His call to grow in the Word.

Cultural context is an integral part of successful Bible study. For this unit's study passage, it is helpful to note that the original recipients of James' epistle lived in an oral culture. Few could read or physically access God's Word. Instead, Scripture was read to them in their synagogues and church services. This fact sheds light on James' emphasis to *hear* the Word.

**📖 Read the study passage, James 1:19-27, and mark the key verses, James 1:21-22, in your Bible.**

**🔑 Mark the keywords *anger/wrath*, *receive/accept*, and *word*.**

**⚖️ *Vine's Expository Dictionary* defines "anger/wrath" as "the strongest of all passions....Suggests a more settled or abiding condition of mind, frequently with a view to taking revenge."**

1. Which physical actions are discussed in verse 19? **AWV. Hearing, speech**
2. What contrasting words describe how a person must hear and speak? **Quick/swift and slow**
3. According to Proverbs 10:19, what is not lacking when many words are present? **Wrongdoing/transgression/sin**
4. Who must be slow to anger/wrath? **Everyone/every person/man**
5. What is contrasted in verse 20? **A man's anger/the anger/wrath of man/human anger and the righteousness of God/that God desires**
6. What transition word connects the themes found in verses 19-20 and in verse 21? (Hint: See the first word in verse 21.) **Therefore/wherefore**
7. What must be received? **The word implanted/engrafted/planted in you**

**⚖️ *Outline of Biblical Usage* says that "receive/accept" means "to receive favourably, give ear to, embrace, make one's own, approve, not to reject."**

The phrase "the implanted word" reminds us of our new birth through the seed of God's Word (1 Peter 1:23). In James 1:18, James tells his readers that they have been brought forth by the Word. In the verses following, he urges them to walk in their new nature.

8. What are two ways a person can deceive himself (vv. 22, 26)? **AWV. By only hearing the Word, by not bridling his tongue**
9. How is pure, undefiled religion defined (v. 27)? **AWV. Visiting orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself unstained by the world**

James tells his Christian audience to receive the Word that can "save your souls." When the Bible speaks of a believer's salvation in Christ, it refers to one of three aspects. Context helps us determine which tense is being used. **Read the references and unscramble the letters to discover the three aspects of salvation. Circle which type is referenced in James 1:21.**

**Past:** Salvation from sin's **TLEYANP** → p e n a l t y (John 3:16)

**Present:** Salvation from sin's **OEPWR** → p o w e r (Rom. 6:6,11)

**Future:** Salvation from sin's **NEPSEECR** → p r e s e n c e (Rev. 21:10, 27)



# EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:24-26

🔍 Reread the study passage, observing all words describing our interaction with the Word. Mark the keywords **humility/meekness/humbly** and **implanted/engrafted/planted**.

🔍 **humility/meekness/humbly (James 1:21)** Strong's #: **G4240** Greek word: **prautēs**

*Vine's Expository Dictionary* Definition: It is that temper of spirit in which we accept His dealings with us as good, and therefore without disputing or resisting.

🔍 **implanted/engrafted/planted (James 1:21)** Strong's #: **G1721** Greek word: **emphytos**

*Vine's Expository Dictionary* Definition: of the Word of God, as the "rooted word," i.e., a word whose property it is to root itself like a seed in the heart.

1. What must we lay aside (v. 21)? **AWV. All moral filth and wickedness**
2. How are we to receive the Word? **In humility/with meekness/humbly**

Meekness is essential to our spiritual lives! As believers, it is a fertilizer for the soil of our hearts, helping us grow as we submit to the Lord's teachings.

For God's Word to thrive within us, it must first take deep root. How we receive the Word determines whether we will neglect or continue in it. **Read the references and write each next to the corresponding statement. Match each statement that describes the acceptance of the Word with the correct group of people.**

Luke 24:13, 15, 27, 32    Acts 8:4-6    Acts 13:44-48  
 Acts 17:10-11    1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2:13

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><u>  a  </u> Thessalonians</p> <p><u>  e  </u> Gentiles</p> <p><u>  b  </u> Bereans</p> <p><u>  c  </u> Samaritans</p> <p><u>  d  </u> Disciples on the road to Emmaus</p> | <p>a. They received it as the Word of God, not of men. <u>1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2:13</u></p> <p>b. They received the Word with all eagerness. <u>Acts 17:10-11</u></p> <p>c. They paid attention to what Philip preached to them. <u>Acts 8:4-6</u></p> <p>d. Their hearts burned as Jesus opened the Word to them. <u>Luke 24:13, 15, 27, 32</u></p> <p>e. They glorified the Word. <u>Acts 13:44-48</u></p> |
|---|--|

In contrast to the early church, many Jewish leaders did not meekly accept the Word but let it fall on hardened soil. **Read the references and complete each statement.**

Mark 7:8-13	The Pharisees and scribes nullified the <u>commandment/commands/word</u> of God by their own <u>tradition</u> .
John 5:38-40	Unbelieving Jews refused to accept what the <u>Scriptures</u> testified of Christ.

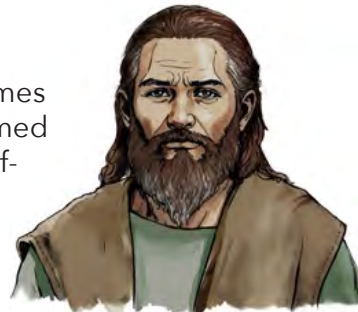


# NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: James 1:21-22

## BACKGROUND STUDY • History: James, the Author

Our *Thrive* study is based on the letter that the Holy Spirit inspired James to write. But which James? In the New Testament, several men are named James, but most Bible scholars believe the human author is Jesus' half-brother. Although James was Jesus' brother, he was not always His follower. According to John 7:5, Christ's brothers (Matt. 13:55) did not believe He was the Messiah—making them family, but not followers. Yet, after the resurrection, Jesus appeared to James (1 Cor. 15:7). Acts 1:13-14 states that shortly after the resurrection, Jesus' mother and brothers were among those in the upper room waiting for the Holy Spirit to come on the day of Pentecost.



James was from Nazareth, a village in Galilee, located near the intersection of busy trade routes. As he interacted with the traveling merchants, he was able to learn excellent Greek. Later, as a leader of the church in Jerusalem, James had the opportunity to refine the language during his interactions with Hellenistic (Greek) Jewish believers.

Twice in Paul's letter to the Galatians, he mentions having been with James in Jerusalem (Gal. 1:18-19; Gal. 2:1, 9). As a leader, James exhibited the ability to listen

to both positions in a discussion and render a wise decision that was satisfactory to both sides. It was James who spoke the verdict releasing Gentile converts from the ceremonial practices of the law, but prohibiting four specific practices that would be offensive to their Jewish brothers and sisters (Acts 15:1-20).

The epistle of James reflects his warm, pastoral nature when he addresses the recipients—Jews dispersed abroad because of persecution—as “brothers” and “dear brothers and sisters.” His use of many examples from common life, as well as from the Old Testament, make truth clear to the readers. James is a letter that reflects many teachings of Jesus—about riches, against judging, and about humility, among others.

James was killed around AD 62. Because of his reputation as a just man, James' words influenced even some Jewish rulers to follow Christ. However, many Jewish leaders opposed James' teachings. They took James to a high place on the temple and asked him to explain to the people—whom they claimed were confused—about the “crucified Jesus.” When James responded that Jesus was alive in heaven at the right hand of the Father and would come again on the clouds, many people were converted. The frenzied leaders shoved James off the temple, but he did not die. His adversaries threw stones at him, and a launderer hit him with a club used to beat clothes. Then James died, even as he prayed for their forgiveness.<sup>1</sup>

**Use the references and information in the article to complete the following statements by circling the correct answers.**

1. James was a (pastor, pillar) in the church in Jerusalem (Gal. 2:1, 9).
2. Some believing (Pharisees priests) in Jerusalem wanted believing Gentiles to keep the Law of Moses (Acts 15:3-5).
3. James described himself as the (servant, brother) of the Lord Jesus Christ (James 1:1).
4. James was killed with (the sword, stones and a club).



# EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:24-26

🔑 Read the study passage and mark the keywords **hear/listen** and **mirror/glass**. Also mark all forms of **look/ behold/observe** and **do**.

James uses two Greek words to illustrate the ways a person may interact with the law of liberty. Understanding these helps us obey the exhortation to become doers of Scripture!

🔍 looks/beholding/observing (James 1:23) Strong's #: **G2657** Greek word: **katanoēō**  
Strong's Definition: **to observe fully**

🔍 has looked/looks/looketh (James 1:25) Strong's #: **G3879** Greek word: **paraklytō**  
Strong's Definition: **to bend beside, i.e. lean over (so as to peer within)**

In Bible times, mirrors were made of polished metal, requiring a person to view himself from multiple angles for the best possible reflection. Thus, *katanoēō* is more than a passing glance. Then *paraklytō* gives the idea of bending down, reminding us to accept the Word with humility.

**Fill in the blanks with the correct Greek word, *katanoēō* or *paraklytō*, to summarize God's call to you as a doer.**

Even if I     *katanoēō*     the Word, if I go away and forget what I learned, I am not changed. But if I     *paraklytō*     into the law of liberty and actively continue in what I learned, I will be blessed!

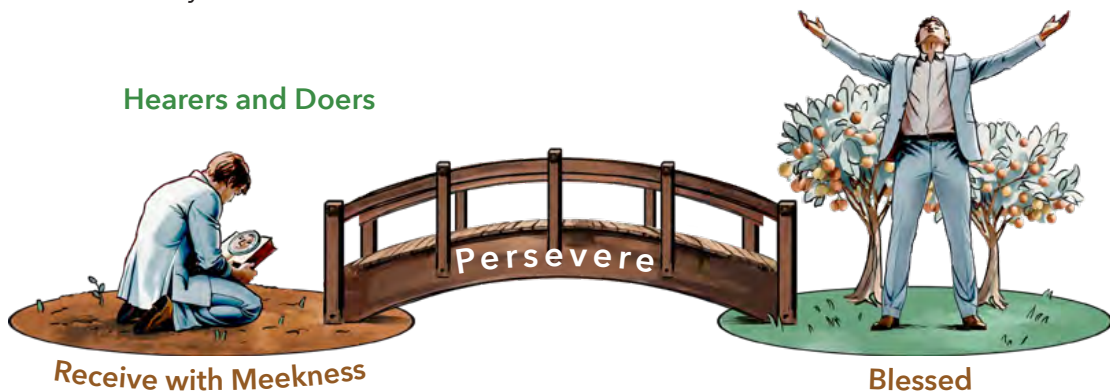
In contrast to an ancient mirror's imperfect reflection, the *teleios* (perfect) law of liberty provides an accurate picture of our hearts. May we submit to the Word and thrive by obeying!

= **doer** According to Merriam-Webster Dictionary  
Definition: **one that takes an active part**

Hearing and doing are actions that are more than achievable through Christ! Deuteronomy 30:9-14 encourages us that it is possible to be a doer of the Word within us. **Read the passage and mark the answer that completes each statement.**

- God's commands are in this \_\_\_\_ of the Law.      Book      Letter
- This commandment is not \_\_\_\_ to (from) you.      Near      Far
- This commandment is not in \_\_\_\_\_.      Heaven      Earth
- This commandment is not beyond the \_\_\_\_\_.      Sky      Sea
- The word is in your \_\_\_\_\_.      Head      Heart

## Hearers and Doers





# NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: James 1:21-22

Just as James compares the Word to a mirror, the Bible is full of many metaphors and similes for the Word of God. **Use the word bank and cross-references to complete the statements about Scripture.**

Lamp Silver Fire Sword Seed Milk Hammer Rain Snow Light

- God's Word is like purified silver (Ps. 12:6).
- God's Word is a lamp and light (Ps. 119:105).
- God's Word is like rain and snow (Isa. 55:10-11).
- God's Word is like fire and a hammer (Jer. 23:29).
- God's Word is a seed (Luke 8:11).
- God's Word is milk (1 Peter 2:2).
- God's Word is a sword (Eph. 6:17).

John 1 tells us that Jesus Christ is the living Word. **Read John 1:14 and list the three qualities the living Word displayed to the world. *Glory, grace, truth***

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

Both James and Jesus address anger and how we respond to God's Word. **Use the references to complete Jesus' teachings. Match James' tenets with the teachings.**

James 1:19-20    James 1:21b    James 1:22

Tenet of James	Teaching of Jesus
James 1:19-20	"It was said to those of old, 'You shall not <u>murder</u> ....' But I say to you that everyone who is <u>angry</u> with his brother will be liable to judgment" (Matt. 5:21-22a ESV).
James 1:22	"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and <u>does</u> them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the <u>rock</u> " (Matt. 7:24 NKJV).
James 1:21b	"And ye have not [the Father's] word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. Search the <u>scriptures</u> ....: and they are they which <u>testify</u> of me" (John 5:38-39 KJV).



Hundreds of years ago, both Solomon and James wrote about caring for other people. **Read James 1:27. Then mark the cross-reference from Proverbs that teaches a similar truth.**

- Proverbs 14:21     Proverbs 15:25     Proverbs 19:17

What topic does James and the cross-reference in Proverbs deal with? **AWV. Care for the widow**





# EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:24-26

🔍 Read the study passage and mark the keyword **has continued/perseveres/continueth/continues**.

🔍 **has continued/perseveres/continueth/continues (James 1:25)**

Strong's #: **G3887**

Greek word: **paramenō**

Strong's Definition: **to stay near, i.e. remain (literally, tarry; or figuratively, be permanent, persevere)**

To be a doer of the Word is to remain in the Word. It is not enough to merely study Scripture; we must keep our hearts fixed on the Word's teachings and our feet active in its commands. God's Word is not meant to be our hotel, but our home!

The following verses provide insight into *how* or *why* we continue in the Word. **Look up the cross-references and complete the statements.** Each New Testament reference contains the word *menō*, a root word of *paramenō*.

Reference	How or Why to Continue in the Word
Psalms 119:14-16	By <u>delighting</u> in God's statutes, decrees
John 8:31-32	So the <u>truth</u> will set you <u>free</u>
John 15:7	So what you ask will be <u>done</u> for <u>you</u>
2 Timothy 3:14-17	Since it can make you wise to <u>salvation</u> through <u>faith</u>
1 Peter 1:24-25	Because it endures <u>forever</u>
1 John 2:24	So you will remain in the <u>Son</u> and in the <u>Father</u>

What hinders hearers from continuing as doers? **Read Mark 4:14-19 and use the Growth cipher to summarize the answer.**

→ R e m o v a l of the Word by Satan

→ U n r o o t e d in the Word

→ W o r r i e s of this world

→ D e c e i t f u l n e s s of riches

→ D e s i r e s for other things

**Read the verse, noting the progression of receiving and continuing in the Word. Draw a rectangle around words describing how the Word is received; underline words describing how it is continued in; and circle words showing the result.**

But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word with a good and virtuous heart, and hold it firmly, and produce fruit with perseverance. -Luke 8:15 (NASB)



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: James 1:21-22

## DISCOVERY DESTINATION • Maturity: Grow as Hearers and Doers

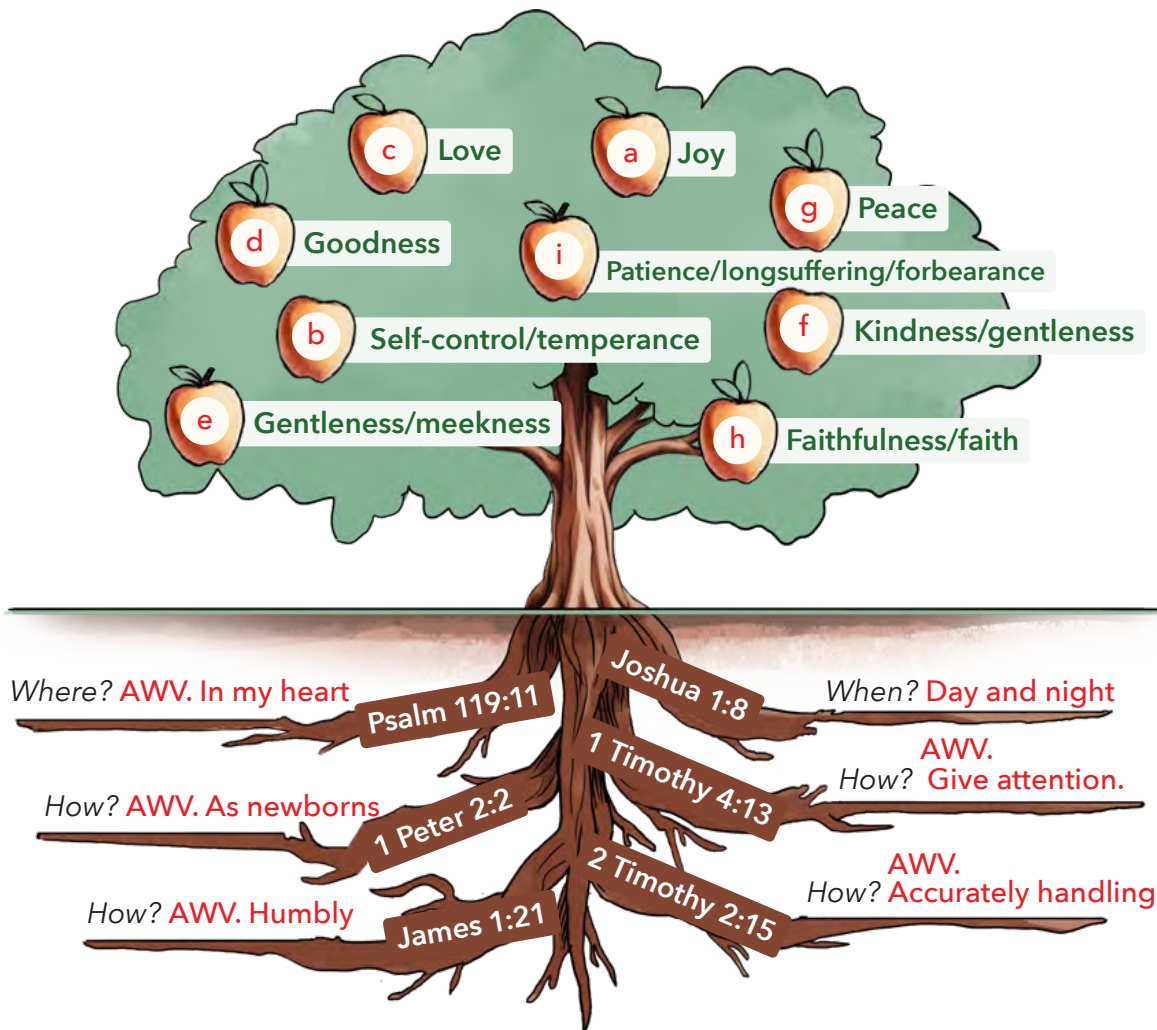
Read Psalm 1:1-3 and mark the keywords **law**, **fruit**, and **prosper/shall prosper**.

Psalm 1:1-3 compares the hearer and doer of God's law to a thriving tree, reminding us that our response to the Word determines the fruitfulness of our Christian life. Humbly hearing and accepting the Word develops a healthy spiritual root system, which in turn results in spiritual fruit through doing the Word.

**Read Galatians 5:22-23 to discover examples of spiritual fruit, then complete the tree diagram below.**

1. Read the cross-references in the Scripture bank and match them with the fruit of the Spirit by writing the correct letters next to the tree's fruit.
2. Using the cross-references and underground prompts, write the ways we hear or receive the Word next to the tree's roots.

- a. John 15:11    b. Acts 24:25    c. Romans 13:10    d. Romans 15:14    e. Galatians 6:1  
 f. Ephesians 2:7    g. Ephesians 4:3    h. Colossians 2:5    i. James 5:10



The theme is revealed in the study passage through keywords, key verses, and memory passages. **Write your theme for Unit 2.**



# EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:24-26

## PEOPLE OF FAITH • Moses—Hebrews 11:23-29

Read Hebrews 11:23-29 and mark the keywords **faith** and **persevered/endured**.

As God’s chosen leader, Moses faithfully led the people of Israel from the land of Egypt to the entrance of the promised land. Moses lived out James 1:27 by keeping himself unspotted by the world. He turned his back on the pleasures of sin in Egypt and chose to be with the people of God. **Review the timeline of Moses’ life as seen in the passage, then answer the questions.**

### Moses' Journey of Faith



1. How are the pleasures of sin described? **Temporary/fleeting/for a season/passing**
2. Why did Moses value the disgrace of Christ more than Egypt’s treasures? **He was looking to/had respect unto the recompense of/looked to/was looking ahead to the/his reward**
3. Whom did Moses see by faith? **Him who is unseen/invisible**
4. What negative quality did Moses and his parents both avoid (vv. 23, 27)? **AWV. Fear**
5. In light of James 1:27, was Moses’ religion pure? **Yes**

Although Moses did not obey God perfectly, he was still a hearer and doer of God’s commands. **Read Exodus 4:1-20, which records part of the conversation in which God called Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. In the left column, number the paraphrased instructions in the order God gave them. In the right column, write the number of the verse where Moses obeyed each instruction.**

God’s Command	Moses’ Obedience
<u>  3  </u> Put your hand inside your robe.	Verse <u>  6  </u>
<u>  1  </u> Throw your staff on the ground.	Verse <u>  3  </u>
<u>  5  </u> Take this staff with you.	Verse <u> 20  </u>
<u>  2  </u> Catch the serpent by the tail.	Verse <u>  4  </u>
<u>  4  </u> Put your hand inside your robe again.	Verse <u>  7  </u>
<u>  6  </u> Return to Egypt.	Verse <u> 20  </u>

Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say. -Exodus 4:12 (NKJV)



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: James 1:21-22

## WORD SEARCH

Answer the questions or fill in the blanks. Then find and circle the answers in the word search puzzle. Words can go in any direction (vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forward, or backward). Words may cross each other and can share letters.

## CLUES

- The recipients of James' epistle lived in an oral culture.
- Man's anger is contrasted with God's righteousness.
- Jesus compared the person who does His sayings to the man who built on a rock.
- As he was dying, James prayed for the forgiveness of his persecutors.
- In the letter of James, God's Word is compared to a mirror.
- Everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment.
- The Scriptures testify of Jesus.
- We are to be doers as well as hearers of the Word.
- Psalm 1:1-3 compares the hearer and doer of God's Word to a thriving tree.
- Patience is the fruit of the Spirit mentioned in James 5:10.

F	J	R	S	A	Q	L	E	U	K	F	I	T
A	C	I	B	D	R	Z	W	O	T	E	S	R
G	H	G	Y	N	K	T	I	R	A	D	S	E
W	U	H	W	P	N	P	Y	B	V	Y	E	E
T	B	T	C	I	M	I	R	R	O	R	N	H
O	A	E	P	N	O	A	G	N	Y	G	E	L
E	D	O	F	L	U	V	J	T	L	B	V	S
W	R	U	Y	A	H	C	I	W	A	Y	I	R
B	T	S	W	R	R	B	S	R	F	G	E	E
K	I	N	D	Z	I	O	K	G	D	C	R	R
L	F	E	B	P	A	U	N	H	O	T	O	A
A	L	S	S	R	N	A	O	R	D	S	F	E
R	A	S	G	E	D	S	T	R	E	F	J	H
O	R	S	C	R	I	P	T	U	R	E	S	P
H	T	O	R	V	A	K	C	O	R	M	T	L

### KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Recite your memory passage, James 1:21-22. How can you thrive in the Word this week?

To apply what you have learned in this unit, complete and initial one activity.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Each day next week, pray through one of your memory passages.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. This Sunday, take notes on the sermon or Sunday school lesson.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Listen to the epistle of James on an audio Bible app.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 2, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 1:19-27 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:24-26

Review this unit before answering the questions.

### True or False

- T   1. Exodus 4:1-20 describes Moses as a hearer and doer of God's commands.
- T   2. A "doer" takes an active part.
- T   3. Many Jewish leaders nullified God's Word by their tradition.
- F   4. Acts 17:10-11 says that the Gentiles received the Word with eagerness.
- F   5. Moses and his family experienced great fear.

### Matching

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <u>  d  </u> 6. The Word endures forever.                 | a. Psalm 119:14-16 |
| <u>  b  </u> 7. Worries hinder hearers from being doers.  | b. Mark 4:14-19    |
| <u>  a  </u> 8. Delight in God's statutes, decrees.       | c. John 8:31-32    |
| <u>  c  </u> 9. The truth will set you free.              | d. 1 Peter 1:24-25 |
| <u>  e  </u> 10. Those that only hear deceive themselves. | e. James 1:22      |

### Fill in the Blank

- 11. The Greek word *emphytos* means the "  rooted   word, like a   seed  ."
- 12. According to Hebrews 11:24-26, the   pleasures   of sin do not last.
- 13. The Greek word   paramenō   describes the act of remaining near the Word of God.
- 14. According to Luke 8:15, those who hear the Word and cling to it are like those who receive seed in good   soil  .
- 15. 2 Timothy 3:14-17 teaches that Scripture makes us wise to   salvation  .

## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

James 1:20 reminds us that God is righteous. Because of this attribute, He perfectly reflects the standard of His law. Psalm 36:6 compares God's righteousness to the mountains, reminding us that it is stable and enduring. The world's idea of right may fluctuate, but God's uprightness never does! We can rest in this aspect of His character, confident in the calling to emulate His righteous ways.

**Ponder:** As God's image bearer, are you reflecting His righteous nature in your attitude and actions?

Write down some areas of your life that can be impacted by embracing God's righteousness.

**Recite:** Memory passage, Hebrews 11:24-26





## UNIT 3

# Thrive in Relationships

### DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Maturity: Grow in Love

### KEY VERSES

*If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well; but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors. -James 2:8-9 (NKJV)*

# LAUNCH • UNIT 3

## OVERVIEW

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, James confronts the favoritism found in the believers' relationships with each other. As an alternative to their sinful behavior, he holds up the Old Testament command to love their neighbor—the true indicator of spiritual maturity.

- **PRAYER**

The Lord Is Glorious—James 2:1  
John 1:14; 2 Corinthians 3:18; John 17:1, 24;  
Revelation 4:11

- **BACKGROUND STUDY**

Culture: Early Church Service

- **TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES**

- **DISCOVERY DESTINATION**

Maturity: Grow in Love

- **PEOPLE OF FAITH**

Gideon—Judges 6:11–35

## STUDY PASSAGE

James 2:1–13



## NAVIGATE MEMORY PASSAGE

James 2:8–10



## EXPLORE MEMORY PASSAGE

Judges 6:11–16

## KEY VERSES

James 2:8–9

 **Key Verses**

 **Keywords**

 **Word Studies**

 **Definitions**

 **Themes**

 **Geography**



# PRAYER • UNIT 3

Before you begin your Discovery Journal lesson each day, pray using the verses provided. Then journal your prayers below using the acronym **PRAY**—**P**raise, **R**epent, **A**sk, **Y**ield.

	<h2>The Lord Is Glorious</h2> <p>James 2:1</p>	
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Prepare your heart for the study of Scripture by focusing on the glory of Jesus Christ. The things of this world fade away when we shift our gaze to the Lord of glory!

<b>Praise</b> —Read John 1:14. Praise Jesus for coming to earth in human form so that we could see His glory!
•
•
•
<b>Repent</b> —Read 2 Corinthians 3:18. As you gaze on Christ’s glory, what areas of your life do you see needing to be conformed to His image?
•
•
•
<b>Ask</b> —Read John 17:1, 24. While on Earth, Jesus prayed for His followers to behold His glory. Ask Him now to reveal this aspect of His character to you.
•
•
•
<b>Yield</b> —Read Revelation 4:11. As creator, the Lord is worthy of all glory and praise. What is He asking you to yield to Him?
•
•
•



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 3, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: James 2:8-10

In James 1, we learned how to be doers of the Word. James 2 now introduces a vital aspect of this: loving others. Inspired by the Spirit, James confronts the believers' immature, unloving treatment of each other so that they can learn to thrive in their relationships!

**Read the study passage, James 2:1-13, and mark the key verses, James 2:8-9, in your Bible.**

**Mark the keywords *personal favoritism/partiality/respect of persons/favoritism, rich, and poor.***

**personal favoritism/partiality/respect of persons/favoritism (James 2:1)**

Strong's #: **G4382**      Greek word: *prosōpolēmpsia*

*Outline of Biblical Usage* Definition II.1: the fault of one who when called on to give judgment has respect of the outward circumstances of man and not to their intrinsic merits, and so prefers, as the more worthy, one who is rich, high born, or powerful, to another who does not have these qualities

1. How is Christ described (v. 1)? **Our glorious Lord Jesus Christ/the Lord of glory**
2. What outward features are being judged in the example of the two men in a church service? **AWV. The men's clothing and the rich man's ring**
3. What are those who show distinctions called (v. 4)? **Judges with/of evil motives/thoughts**
4. Whom has God chosen to be rich in faith? **AWV. The poor of this world**
5. What did James specifically say his readers had done (v. 6)? **Dishonored/despised the poor man/the poor**
6. According to Proverbs 17:5, what is someone actually doing when he mocks the poor? **Taunting/insulting/reproaching/showing contempt for his/their Maker**
7. According to Proverbs 22:2, what do the rich and poor have in common? **The Lord is the Maker of them all.**
8. What is the royal law (James 2:8)? **AWV. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**
9. How are we doing if we obey the royal law? **Well/right**
10. What standard are we judged by (v. 12)? **The law of freedom/liberty/that gives freedom**

The believers' prejudice was causing discord in their church services, but God's Word had the solution. **Complete the Braille cipher to discover the passage divisions of James 2:1-13.**

James 2:1-7      The Corruption of Partiality:  
 → D i s u n i t y

James 2:8-9      The Cure for Partiality:  → L o v e

James 2:10-13      The Consequences of Partiality:  
 → J u d g m e n t



# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-16

- Reread James 2:1-9 and mark the keywords **pay/show special attention/pay attention/have respect, made distinctions/partial/shown partiality/discriminated, and love.**

To uncover the study passage's central message, analyze the verses by filling in the blanks; underlining the transition word connecting the two contrasting statements; and circling the two contrasting traits.

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. -James 2:8-9 (ESV)

Read Leviticus 19:15, 18.

- How must we judge our neighbor? **Fairly/in righteousness**
- What statement follows the royal law in this passage? **I am the Lord.**

**love (James 2:8)** Strong's #: **G25** Greek word: **agapaō**

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition 1.1: **to welcome, to entertain, to be fond of, to love dearly**

Unlike the modern concept of love, *agapaō* is a decision instead of a feeling. Although the world tells us to show favoritism, genuine love is the cure for partiality.

Read the following references and observe the table contrasting partiality and love. In the last column, write the correct references. Note that some passages do not explicitly mention love but do describe how love behaves.

1 Samuel 16:7    Luke 14:12-14    Romans 12:9  
Romans 13:10    Colossians 3:10-11    1 John 2:10

Fact About Partiality	Reference	Behavior of Love	Reference
Judges by outward appearance	James 2:3	Looks at the heart	1 Samuel 16:7
Makes distinctions among believers	James 2:4	Does not make distinctions among believers	Colossians 3:10-11
Has evil thoughts	James 2:4	Is without hypocrisy/sincere	Romans 12:9
Dishonors the poor	James 2:6	Ministers to the poor	Luke 14:12-14
Makes a person a transgressor	James 2:9	Safeguards against stumbling	1 John 2:10
Is convicted by the law	James 2:9	Fulfills the law	Romans 13:10

Conclude this lesson by reading Deuteronomy 7:7-8. Take a moment to thank God for not choosing His people based on favoritism but on His covenant love!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 3, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: James 2:8-10

## BACKGROUND STUDY • Culture: Early Church Service

What was a first-century gathering of Christ-followers like? God's Word, the writings of early church fathers, and other historical writings are the available sources of our understanding.

The first believers were Jewish and continued to meet in synagogues and the temple on the Sabbath. They followed the order of service as they had done before they followed Christ. However, when non-Jews (Gentiles) became converts, they were not permitted into the Jewish place of worship. An additional worship time and place to meet was decided upon. Therefore, in honor of Jesus' resurrection, the Christians—Jews and Gentiles together—chose the first day of the week, the Lord's day, to meet in houses to worship Jesus as the Son of God.

These new believers incorporated components of the synagogue meetings into these gatherings. We also know from 1 Timothy 4:13 that Paul exhorted Timothy to publicly read the Scripture, exhort, and teach. Apostle Paul lists components of the gatherings in 1 Corinthians 14:26: people had a psalm, a teaching (doctrine), a tongue (a naturally unacquired language), a revelation (disclosure), or an interpretation. If a church received a letter from an apostle, it would be read publicly and shared with other churches (Col. 4:16).<sup>1</sup> The incorporation of these elements seems to indicate that the services were informal. Paul then said that all things were to be done decently and in order and followed with instructions on how to do that.

While Jewish services focused on God the Father, without recognizing Jesus Christ, His Son, the new format included the love feast. This agape meal included bread and wine, which enabled the people to worship Jesus. The services were in two parts. Anyone was allowed to attend the first part, which was known as "the assembly" and "the service of the Word." When this portion of the meeting closed, a time was given to escort unbelievers from the meeting in preparation for the second part. During this break, believers greeted each other and reconciled with fellow believers if there had been problems between them. They also gave each other a holy kiss, which demonstrated how the Holy Spirit brought strangers together in the bonds of love and unity. This was so important that the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper were considered incomplete without the exchange of a holy kiss.<sup>2</sup>

The second part opened with a greeting taken from Scripture; then, as a congregation, they recited a biblical verse. They received an offering for widows, orphans, and the poor. As they approached Communion, the one presiding over the gathering offered thanks for Jesus Christ and asked a blessing on the bread and wine, following which they ceremoniously received these elements. There might also be baptisms for new believers. The leader pronounced a blessing and they were dismissed.

### Read each reference and circle the correct answer.

1. The first believers were (Jews, Romans) (Acts 2:5, 41).
2. An important part of the first-century believers' service was the exchange of a holy (Bible, kiss) (Rom. 16:16; 1 Cor. 16:20; 1 Thess. 5:26).
3. The churches in Macedonia and Achaia helped the (poor, widows) in Jerusalem with an offering (Rom. 15:26).
4. Early church services included (doctrine offerings) (1 Cor. 14:26).
5. Receiving the Lord's Supper proclaims the Lord's (example, death) until He comes (1 Cor. 11:26).



# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-16

The study passage opens with James discussing people who are partial and act as judges with evil motives. His focus then shifts to the royal law, which judges people perfectly.

🔗 Read the study passage and mark the keywords **convicted/convicted, law, guilty, and judged**.

📖 *Vine's Expository Dictionary* defines the Greek word for "law" as "the established name for 'law' as decreed by a state and set up as the standard for the administration of justice."

🔍 **guilty (James 2:10)** Strong's #: **G1777** Greek word: **enochos**  
 Strong's Definition: **liable to (a condition, penalty or imputation)**

Read Exodus 20:1-2, 13-14.

1. Whose law is being referenced in James 2, in light of this passage? **The Lord's**
2. How many commands are given? **Two**

Reread James 2:9-13.

3. What does the law do (v. 9)? **Convicts/convines as violators/transgressors/lawbreakers**
4. In how many points of the law must someone fail to become guilty of breaking it all? **One**
5. What law judges us (v. 12)? **The law of freedom/liberty/that gives freedom**
6. What two areas should be affected by this fact (v. 12)? **AWV. How we speak, act**
7. How is this law described earlier in James 1:25? **Perfect**
8. According to Matthew 7:2, how will we be judged? **AWV. In the same way we judge others**

Unscramble the letters in each statement to understand the impartiality of God's law. Read the references and match each to the correct statement.

- a. Romans 3:19-20      b. Galatians 3:10-11

- a   The law speaks so that the whole **lowdr**   world   may become accountable to God. For by the law comes the **lowdkgnee**   knowledge   of our sin.
- b   **uscerd**   Cursed   is everyone who does not do everything written in the book of the law. No one is **eiifutsjd**   justified   before God by the law.

The law's perfect standard motivates us to not show favoritism in our relationships. Yet the justice of the law would lead us to despair if it were not for the grace it points to. **Read the verse and underline the words that reveal the law's purpose.**

Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. -Galatians 3:24 (KJV)

Read Galatians 3:13-14 and fill in the blanks to discover Christ's gracious provision.

Christ   redeemed   us from the law's curse so that we could receive the promise of the   Spirit   through   faith  .

Jesus' perfection satisfied the law. He received God's judgment without mercy, so that we could receive God's mercy without judgment. Praise the Lord!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 3, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: James 2:8-10

Read the study passage, noting how God demonstrates impartial love in James 2:5. Then read the following cross-references to learn more about His impartiality. In the box next to each item, place an **x** for what God does not judge or a **✓** for what He does regard.

- Deuteronomy 10:17-18  Family circumstances
- Job 34:17-19  Social status
- Acts 10:34-35  Nationality  Fear of God and righteousness
- Galatians 3:26-28  Faith in Christ  Male and Female

God's impartial character overlooks a person's outward circumstances, but does He overlook their sin? Read Romans 2:4-11 and fill in the result of man's behavior.

Reference	Behavior	Result
v. 7	Seeks for glory, honor, and immortality	Eternal life
v. 8	Doesn't obey the truth, but obeys unrighteousness	Wrath/indignation and indignation/fury/wrath/anger
v. 9	Does evil	Tribulation/trouble and distress/anguish
v. 10	Does good	Glory, honor, and peace

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

Both James and Jesus speak about murder, loving others, and disobeying God's commands. Use the references to complete Jesus' teachings. Match James' tenets with the teachings.

James 2:8    James 2:10    James 2:11

Tenet of James	Teaching of Jesus
James 2:11a	"You know the commandments: 'Do not <u>murder</u> '" (Mark 10:19a ESV).
James 2:8	"The second [commandment] is this: 'Love your <u>neighbor</u> as yourself'" (Mark 12:31a NIV).
James 2:10	"Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these <u>commandments</u> , and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:19a NKJV).



The books of both James and Proverbs contain wisdom that is still applicable to our lives. Reread James 2:11. Then mark the cross-reference from Proverbs that best relates to James' teaching.

- Proverbs 6:16-17
- Proverbs 21:25
- Proverbs 28:17

What topic do both James and the cross-reference in Proverbs deal with? **AWV. Murder/killing/shedding innocent blood**





# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-16

Reread James 2:12-13 and mark the keywords **judgment** and **mercy**.

Read the references and fill in the information. Then unscramble the letters to learn more about the consequences of not showing mercy.

### Judges 1:4-7

- Person receiving judgment (v. 6): **Adoni-bezek/Adonibezek**
- Merciless act committed (v. 7): **AWV. Had cut off the thumbs and big toes of seventy kings.**
- Judgment received: His **tbsuhm** thumbs and big **esto** toes were cut off.

### 1 Samuel 15:32-33

- Person receiving judgment (v. 32): **Agag the king/king of the Amalekites**
- Merciless act committed (v. 33): **AWV. Made women childless with his sword**
- Judgment received: He was put to death before the Lord in **liaggl** Gilgal.

### Obadiah 1:1, 10, 15

- People group receiving judgment (v. 1): **Edom**
- Merciless act committed (v. 10): **AWV. Violence against his brother Jacob**
- Judgment received: The nations would rise against Edom in **etbatl** battle, and Edom would be covered with **mseha** shame.



**mercy (James 2:13b)**

Strong's #: **G1656**

Greek word: **eleos**

Strong's Definition: **of uncertain affinity; compassion (human or divine, especially active)**

In contrast to man's unmerciful ways, Christ demonstrated perfect compassion during His earthly ministry. Where others turned away in prejudice, He reached out in love. **Match each reference to the person or people being judged by man but shown mercy by Jesus.**

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <u>  d  </u> 1. Zacchaeus                  | a. Matthew 9:10-13  |
| <u>  a  </u> 2. Tax collectors and sinners | b. Matthew 19:13-14 |
| <u>  c  </u> 3. A blind man                | c. Luke 18:35-42    |
| <u>  b  </u> 4. Little children            | d. Luke 19:1-10     |

The light of our Savior's kindness still burns brightly against the darkness of prejudice around us. Truly, His mercy triumphs over man's judgment! Regardless of what others do, may we follow His example and thrive in our relationships!

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. -Matthew 5:7 (KJV)



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 3, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: James 2:8-10

## DISCOVERY DESTINATION • Maturity: Grow in Love

**Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 and mark the keyword **love/charity**.** The Greek word for "love"/"charity" in this passage is *agapē*, the noun form of *agapaō*.

As we have learned, love for others is what demonstrates spiritual maturity. It is the sign of a true believer (1 John 2:9-10) and the trademark of authentic faith!

**Use the Thrive cipher to complete each "subtraction problem" based on 1 Corinthians 13.** (Hint: The answers should be written numerically.)

 → **P r o p h e c y** - love =   0  

 → **F a i t h** - love =   0  

 → **S a c r i f i c e** - love =   0  

Love is essential. When we grow in love, we will grow in the characteristics found in 1 Corinthians 13. **Place a ✓ beside what love is and an ✗ beside what it is not.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patient and kind           | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejoices in wrongdoing                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Envious                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejoices with the truth                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boastful                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Keeps every confidence/bears all things/protects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arrogant                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Believes all things                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts disgracefully, rude, dishonoring | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hopes all things                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seeks its own way                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Endures all things                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easily provoked                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Fails   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keeps record of evil                  |  |

**Using the references in parentheses, complete each statement to learn more about how love is important and what it involves.**

- Love your **enemies** and **pray** for your persecutors (Matt. 5:44).
- All the **law** depends on loving God and loving your **neighbor** (Matt. 22:37-40).
- The greatest love is to **lay down** your life for your **friends** (John 15:13).
- Serve** one another through **love** (Gal. 5:13).
- Bear/forbear** with others in **love** (Eph. 4:2).
- Be an **example** of the believers in speech, conduct, **love/charity**, faith, and purity (1 Tim. 4:12).

**To learn about Christ's example of love, read His words to His disciples in John 15:9-13.**

- How did Jesus say He had loved His disciples? **AWV. As the Father had loved Him**
- Whose love does Jesus remain in? **His Father's**

**Write your theme for Unit 3.**



# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-16

## PEOPLE OF FAITH • Gideon—Judges 6:11-35

🔗 Read Judges 6:11-35 and mark the keywords **valiant/mighty warrior/mighty man of valor, least/weakest/poor, and favor/grace.**

Summarize the paraphrased conversation between the Angel of God and Gideon by matching the statements with the responses. Statements may have multiple answers.

God's Statement	Gideon's Response
<u>c, a, d</u> "The Lord is with you, mighty man of valor."	a. "Where are His miracles that our ancestors told us about?"
<u>e, b</u> "Go in this your strength and save Israel from Midian. Have I not sent you?"	b. "My family clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house."
<u>f</u> "Surely I will be with you, and you will strike down the Midianites as one man."	c. "If the Lord is with us, why has all this happened?"
<u>g</u> "Put the meat and bread on the rock and pour out the broth."	d. "The Lord has forsaken us and given us to Midian."
	e. "Please, Lord, how am I to save Israel?"
	f. "If now I have found favor in Your eyes, show me a sign that You are talking with me."
	g. Gideon did so.

Gideon's Statement	God's Response
<u>b</u> "Please do not depart until I come back and bring out my present and set it before You."	a. "Peace to you. Do not fear; you shall not die."
<u>a</u> "Alas, O Lord God! For I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face!"	b. "I will wait until you come back."

Did you notice that nearly all the Lord's statements to Gideon contained a promise? He was merciful to Gideon's fearful heart, strengthening him for the task ahead. He identified Gideon by the description He chose. The Lord looked past the man Gideon saw himself to be; God saw the man He was making Gideon to be.

1. What did Gideon name the first altar he built? **The Lord Is Peace/Jehovahshalom**
2. Whose altar did God tell Gideon to tear down before building a second altar? **AWV. His father's altar to Baal**
3. What happened to Gideon when the Midianites and their allies camped in the Valley of Jezreel? **The Spirit of the Lord covered/clothed/came upon/on him.**
4. What did Gideon do after this? **AWV. He blew a trumpet, summoning the Abiezrites; he sent messengers throughout Manasseh and to Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali.**

Gideon was an unlikely candidate to save Israel, so why would God choose him as a valiant warrior? **Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-29, and use verse 29 to write your answer below. AWW.**



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 3, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: James 2:8-10

Solve each word jumble below using the corresponding clue. Then unscramble the circled letters in those answers to solve question 13.

Jumble	Clue	Answer
1. KERAM	What the Lord is called (Prov. 22:2)	M A K E R
2. RINEDF	You should lay down your life for your _____.	F R I E N D
3. VERES	Do this through love (Gal. 5:13).	S E R V E
4. FOBLASTU	Love is not _____.	B O A S T F U L
5. VELO	The _____ feast enabled early believers to worship Jesus.	L O V E
6. DUSEGJ	Name for those who make distinctions	J U D G E S
7. TOHGCLIN	Two men in the study passage were judged by their _____.	C L O T H I N G
8. NONLYAATIIT	What God does not judge by (Acts 10:34-35)	N A T I O N A L I T Y
9. HURTT	What love rejoices with	T R U T H
10. YLHO	Early believers exchanged a _____ kiss as a sign of the bonds of love and unity.	H O L Y
11. OROP	The kind of people God chose to be rich in faith	P O O R
12. MUMNONCIO	Proclaims the Lord's death until He comes	C O M M U N I O N

13. The second great commandment

L o v e y o u r n e i g h b o r as y o u r s e l f .

## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Recite your memory passage, James 2:8-10. How can you thrive in impartial love this week? **To apply what you have learned, complete and initial one activity.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Reach out to a peer or classmate whom you normally overlook.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Do an act of kindness for someone unable to repay you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Commit to pray daily next week for someone who has wronged you.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-16

Review this unit before answering the questions.

### True or False

- T   1. The Greek word for "guilty" is *enochos*.
- T   2. The Greek word *agapaō* indicates a decision, not a feeling.
- T   3. Everyone who does not do everything in the book of the law is cursed.
- F   4. God told Gideon to tear down the altar to Chemosh.
- F   5. In Luke 18:35-42, Jesus healed a blind man near Nazareth.

### Matching

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| <u>  c  </u> 6. The whole world is accountable to God.       | a. Obadiah 1:1,10,15 |
| <u>  b  </u> 7. Love ministers to the poor.                  | b. Luke 14:12-14     |
| <u>  d  </u> 8. Christ redeemed us from the law's curse.     | c. Romans 3:19-20    |
| <u>  a  </u> 9. Edom committed violence against his brother. | d. Galatians 3:13-14 |
| <u>  e  </u> 10. Partiality makes someone a transgressor.    | e. James 2:9         |

### Fill in the Blank

- 11. Loving your neighbor as yourself is referred to as the   royal   law.
- 12.   Agag   was killed for making women childless with his sword.
- 13. The law was our   schoolmaster   to bring us to Christ.
- 14. Gideon was from a family clan of   Manasseh  .
- 15. The Greek word for "mercy" is   eleos  .

## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

James 2:5 reminds us that God is impartial. We have studied many aspects of this attribute, but one of the most encouraging relates to salvation. God's mercy toward those who repent is just as impartial as His judgment of those who do not. No one will ever be turned away because of outward circumstances, since at God's table, there is a "good seat" for everyone who comes to Him (Rom. 10:12-13)!

**Ponder:** As God's image bearer, are you reflecting His impartial nature in your attitude and actions?

Write down some areas of your life that can be impacted by embracing God's impartiality.

**Recite:** Memory passage, Judges 6:11-16





## UNIT 4

# Thrive in Our Works

### DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Maturity: Grow in Obedience

### KEY VERSES

*In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.  
But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."  
Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.  
-James 2:17-18 (NIV)*

# LAUNCH • UNIT 4

## OVERVIEW

Drawing from both a true-to-life illustration and real-life examples, James presents a brilliant argument that faith and works cannot be separated. A dead faith is useless, but authentic faith is validated by action.

- **PRAYER**

God Is One God—James 2:19

1 Corinthians 8:6; Malachi 2:10; John 17:1, 20–21;  
Mark 12:30–33

- **BACKGROUND STUDY**

Sociology: Jewish Life in the Roman Empire

- **TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES**

- **DISCOVERY DESTINATION**

Maturity: Grow in Obedience

- **PEOPLE OF FAITH**

Rahab—Joshua 2:1–21

## STUDY PASSAGE

James 2:14–26



## NAVIGATE MEMORY PASSAGE

James 2:14–18



## EXPLORE MEMORY PASSAGE

Joshua 2:8–11

## KEY VERSES

James 2:17–18



Key Verses



Keywords



Word Studies



Definitions



Themes



Geography



Before you begin your Discovery Journal lesson each day, pray using the verses provided. Then journal your prayers below using the acronym **PRAY**—Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield.

	<h2>God Is One God</h2> <p>James 2:19</p>	
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When James says his readers believe God is one God, he is likely referencing the Shema, a Jewish prayer and confession of faith (Deut. 6:4). Prepare your heart for the study of Scripture by celebrating the truth that, in contrast to the false deities of other religions, our God is one!

<b>Praise</b> —Read 1 Corinthians 8:6. Exalt our God and Father from whom come all things!
•
•
•
<b>Repent</b> —Read Malachi 2:10. Do you live out the reality of sharing the same creator as those around you? Ask the Lord to show you any ways you have acted faithlessly to others rather than shown His love.
•
•
•
<b>Ask</b> —Read John 17:1, 20–21. In light of Jesus’ prayer, ask for your relationship with fellow believers to reflect the oneness between Christ and the Father.
•
•
•
<b>Yield</b> —Read Mark 12:30–33. Surrender to the Lord any area in which your love for Him or others needs refining.
•
•
•



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 4, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: James 2:14-18

In this unit's study passage, James points back to the topic of "work" in James 1:25 by alluding to the theme of being active doers. Authentic faith is not passive—rather, faith works!

**Read the study passage, James 2:14-26, and mark the key verses, James 2:17-18, in your Bible.**

**Mark the keywords *faith*, *dead/useless*, and *works/deeds/action/he/they/she did/do*.**

**faith (James 2:14)** Strong's #: **G4102** Greek word: ***pistis***

Strong's Definition: persuasion, i.e. credence; moral conviction (of religious truth, or the truthfulness of God or a religious teacher), especially reliance upon Christ for salvation; abstractly, constancy in such profession; by extension, the system of religious (Gospel) truth itself

This powerful word, *pistis*, is used sixteen times in James' epistle; eleven of those uses are found in James 2:14-26!


**works/deeds (James 2:14)** Strong's #: **G2041** Greek word: ***ergon***


Strong's Definition: **toil (as an effort or occupation); by implication, an act**


The Greek word, *ergon*, is found fifteen times in James' epistle, including twelve times in James 2:14-26. Most Bible versions translate this word as "works," but NIV uses "deeds," "action," "what they do," etc. For simplicity, "works" is the English rendering most often used throughout this study.

1. What question does James ask about someone who says he has faith but has no works (v. 14b)? **Can that/such faith save him/them?**
2. What two negative examples does James provide in the study passage to help answer his own question? **AWV. Someone who does not care for a brother, demons/devils**
3. What two positive examples does he provide? **Abraham, Rahab**
4. How is faith without works described (vv. 17, 20, 26)? **Dead, useless/dead, dead**
5. By what two factors is a person justified (v. 24)? **AWV. By their works/what they do, by faith**
6. After observing James 2:14-26, how would you answer the second question in James 2:14? **No**

Workless faith is worthless, but active faith is authentic! The examples in the study passage call us to demonstrate our faith in several ways. **Complete the Braille cipher to discover the passage divisions of James 2:14-26.**

James 2:14-17 Faith works in  → C o m p a s s i o n

James 2:18-24 Faith works in  → S u r r e n d e r

James 2:25-26 Faith works in  → F e a r l e s s n e s s



# EXPLORE • UNIT 4, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: Joshua 2:8-11

**Reread the study passage and mark the keyword *justified/considered righteous*.**

A rhetorical question is a question asked to create an effect, not to receive an answer. James uses this literary device to encourage his readers to examine their hearts, helping them understand the divinely inspired argument for authentic faith.

**Number these paraphrased rhetorical questions in the order they appear in the study passage.**

- 3 What does it profit if someone “blesses” a needy brother but does not meet his need?
- 1 What use is it if someone says he has faith but does not have works?
- 5 Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for his works when he offered Isaac on the altar?
- 6 Was not Rahab considered righteous when she lodged the spies and sent them in a different direction?
- 2 Can that faith save him?
- 4 Do you want to be shown, foolish man, that faith apart from deeds is useless?

Have you noticed James uses four examples to repetitively emphasize that faith and works cannot be separated? We will expound on these throughout this unit. **Match each example with the corresponding truth about faith being coupled with works.**

- a. Negligent person
- b. Rahab
- c. Abraham
- d. Demons

- a Faith without works is dead (v. 17).
- d Faith without works is useless/dead (vv. 19-20).
- c A person is justified by works, not by faith alone (vv. 23-24).
- b Faith without works is dead (vv. 25-26).

When the study passage says a man is justified by works as well as faith, what does it mean? Scripture never contradicts itself, allowing us to interpret this difficult passage with other parts of God’s Word.

**Read Ephesians 2:8-9 and Galatians 2:16.**

1. What are we saved by? **Grace through faith**
2. What type of works is a man not justified by? **The works of the law**

**Complete the word study below. In light of the references above, underline the definition corresponding with the study passage’s teaching that a person is justified by works and not faith alone.**

**justified/considered righteous (James 2:21)** Strong’s #: **G1344** Greek word: **dikaioō**

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition I: to render [make] righteous... II: to show, exhibit...one to be righteous, such as he is

According to the word study, “justified/considered righteous” can either refer to the act of salvation (def. I) or to the evidence of salvation (def. II). The cross-references you read define the works of the law performed by an unbeliever in attempts to become righteous; the study passage defines works done by a believer proving he has already been made righteous in Christ. As His disciples, we do not follow a works-based faith, but we do follow a faith that works!



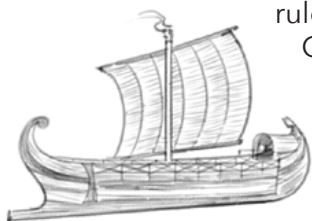
# NAVIGATE • UNIT 4, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: James 2:14-18

## BACKGROUND STUDY • Sociology: Jewish Life in the Roman Empire



The Roman Empire was extensive—with land from Ireland to Egypt. For Jews and Christians under Roman rule, life was complicated. How did they live under Roman rule and remain steadfast in their faith? When Jesus walked the earth, He admonished His followers to love and serve as He would. In James' epistle, James showed believers how to purify their hearts—what they affirmed should be reflected in their actions.



The Romans were living in the Pax Romana, Roman peace. They were prospering. But Roman rule was a problem for both Jews and Christians. They believed in one God,



causing Rome to view the people of the Diaspora as obstinate people, and conflict arose. Under Roman jurisdiction, communities could worship their god if Rome's many gods were included. After minor uprisings, it was decided Christians could worship their God only, but this quickly ended.



Conflicts were not only between Romans and Jews, but also among believers themselves. Society was separated by class—rich and poor, Hellenistic-educated and Torah-educated, religious leaders and zealots. James reminded believers to be impartial and live sincerely (James 3:17). Jesus admonished His followers to “pay to Caesar the things that are Caesar's” (Mark 12:17 NASB) and “if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles” (Matt. 5:41 ESV). Jesus directly instructed believers to live well with one another and under Rome—regardless of their circumstances.



However, what was meant for evil, God used for good. Because the Roman roads stretched across the empire, the gospel was easily spread. Physical, societal, and economic persecution required believers to steadfastly hold to the Word, and the early church prospered. While believers never gained political independence, they remained faithful to God, even to the point of death for many of them.

Read each statement and circle the correct answer.

1. The Roman roads made spreading the gospel (easy, difficult).
2. Jesus told his followers to walk (less, more) than Roman law required.
3. Rome saw the people of Judea and the Diaspora as (peaceful, obstinate).
4. Conflicts also arose between (believers) Jews and Christians).
5. The early church (diminished, prospered) amid persecution.





# EXPLORE • UNIT 4, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: Joshua 2:8-11

Earlier in the chapter, James urges his readers to demonstrate love as an indicator of their spiritual well-being (James 2:8). He now uses the first of four examples, a negligent person, to warn the readers about the dead faith that is present where loving compassion is missing.

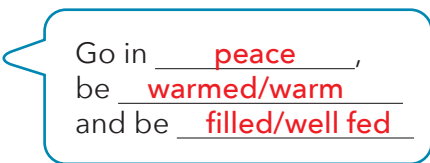
 Read the study passage, paying close attention to verses 14-17. Mark the keyword **says/claims**.

## Example #1: A Negligent Person


To emphasize the truth that faith and works cannot be separated, James asks this rhetorical question, "Can faith without **eddes**       **deeds**       **vase**       **save**       someone?"

Use the text to complete the summary of verses 14-17. Notice the lack of action to validate the person's words.

Someone says  I have       **faith**       but has no       **works/deeds**       (v. 14).

Someone says  Go in       **peace**      ,  
be       **warmed/warm**        
and be       **filled/well fed**       but does nothing about the needs of their body (v. 16).

In verse 17, James answers his own question, "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by **naotic**       **action**      , is **dade**       **dead**      " (NIV).

 *Webster's Dictionary 1828* defines "action" (found in James 2:17 NIV) as "literally, a driving; hence, the state of acting or moving; exertion of power or force." James' first example urges us to be sure our words and deeds align. Living faith is love in action.

1. How do we know that James' readers may have been guilty of the type of treatment he is condemning (Hint: James 2:6)? **AWV. They had dishonored the poor.**
2. What item referenced in verse 15 as a physical need was also mentioned in James' example about partiality (James 2:3)? **AWV. Clothing**
3. What introductory phrase connects the example with its point (v. 17)? **In the same way/so also/even so/thus also**
4. According to Proverbs 3:27-28, when should you not withhold good from those to whom it is due? **When it is in your power/the power of thine/your hand to do it/do so/act**

Other Scriptures reinforce the teaching that how we treat others reveals the genuineness of our faith. **Read the cross-references and answer the questions to learn more.**

### 1 John 3:17-20

5. What cannot dwell in someone who closes his heart to a brother in need? **The love of God/God's love**
6. How should we love? **In deed/with actions and truth/in truth**

### Matthew 25:31-46

7. What areas of need are discussed? **AWV. Hunger, thirst, being a stranger, clothing, sickness, and imprisonment**
8. How are the people who meet these needs described in verse 46? **Righteous**



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 4, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: James 2:14-18

**Read the study passage.** As we grow in obedience, we will thrive in our works. The Bible often uses the word “good” to describe those works resulting from authentic faith. **Read the verse below. Underline what we are, circle what we were created for, and draw a rectangle around our obedient response.**

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. -Ephesians 2:10 (NKJV)

**Read the cross-references and use the word bank to find characteristics we should exhibit.**

Thoroughly equipped   Well known   Adorned   Careful   Rich

Reference	Characteristic
1 Timothy 2:9-10	<u>Adorned</u> with good works
1 Timothy 5:9-10	<u>Well known</u> for good works
1 Timothy 6:18	<u>Rich</u> in good works
2 Timothy 3:17	<u>Thoroughly equipped</u> for good works
Titus 3:8	<u>Careful</u> to be engaged in, devoted to good works

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

The study passage focuses on several topics that Jesus addressed. **Use the references to complete Jesus' teachings. Match James' tenets with the teachings.**

James 2:15-16   James 2:19a   James 2:23b

Tenet of James	Teaching of Jesus
James 2:23b	"I have called you <u>friends</u> " (John 15:15b NASB).
James 2:19a	"And Jesus answered him, The <u>first</u> of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is <u>one</u> Lord" (Mark 12:29 KJV).
James 2:15-16	"For I was <u>hungry</u> and you gave me food...was naked and you clothed me.... Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the <u>least</u> of these my brothers, you did it to me" (Matt. 25:35-40 ESV).



The writer of Proverbs, the author of James, and Jesus all mention a topic that we still find important in our lives today. **Read James 2:23. Then mark the cross-reference from Proverbs that contains a parallel idea.**

- Proverbs 17:17
- Proverbs 18:24
- Proverbs 22:11

What topic is addressed in both the James passage and Proverbs passage? **AWV. Friendship**



# EXPLORE • UNIT 4, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: Joshua 2:8-11

In this lesson, we will study the next two examples, demons and Abraham, to learn more about faith and works.

**Reread James 2:18-24 and mark the keyword **credited/counted/imputed/accounted**.**

According to the *Outline of Biblical Usage*, "credited/counted/imputed/accounted" means "a thing is reckoned as or to be something, i.e. as availing for or equivalent to something, as having the like force and weight."

### Example #2: Demons

Read Mark 1:23-27. Match the paraphrased statements with those who made them.

- a. Jesus
- b. The people
- c. The unclean spirit (demon)

- c   1. "Let us alone! What do You have to do with us? I know who You are, the Holy One of God!"
- a   2. "Be quiet, and come out of him!"
- b   3. "He even commands the unclean spirits, and they obey Him."

Though the demons know who Jesus is intellectually, they have no desire to submit to Him as Lord. Their belief makes them tremble in terror, yet does not lead them to worship in love.

### Example #3: Abraham

Review the word study for "justified/considered righteous" in *Explore Lesson 1* before answering the questions on the study passage.

- 4. When was Abraham justified/considered righteous by his works? **AWV. When he offered Isaac his son on the altar**
- 5. What two things were working together (v. 22)? **Abraham's faith and his works/actions**
- 6. How was his faith perfected/completed? **AWV. By his works**
- 7. What was credited to Abraham as righteousness? **AWV. His belief in God**

The study passage references two events in Abraham's life: his justification by faith (the act of salvation) and his justification by works (the evidence of salvation). The second instance is mentioned in verse 21, while the first is alluded to in verse 23, where James quotes from an Old Testament account. These events show us how faith and action work together.

Read the following narratives from Genesis. Match each detail about Abraham with the account it is taken from.

#### Abraham's Justification by Faith Genesis 15:1-6, 18

- b     c     d     g     h



#### Abraham's Justification by Works Genesis 22:1-17

- a     e     f     i     j

- |  |  |                               |
|--|--|-------------------------------|
| a. Descendants like the stars and sand | d. Descendants like the stars          | h. Childless                  |
| b. Told not to fear                    | e. Had one son                         | i. Believed God would provide |
| c. Believed the Lord                   | f. Planned to worship                  | j. Built an altar             |
|  | g. Belief was counted as righteousness |                               |

In contrast to the demons' head knowledge, Abraham's belief led him to offer God his most valuable treasure. He walked out his faith in surrender and was called a friend of God.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 4, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: James 2:14-18

## DISCOVERY DESTINATION • Maturity: Grow in Obedience

When James says Abraham's faith was completed by his works, he uses the verb form of *teleios* ("perfect/mature"). As Abraham's did, our faith will mature when we walk obediently. The apostle Paul's epistle to the Philippians gives the secret to growing in obedience.

### 🔑 Read Philippians 2:12-13 and mark the keywords **obeyed, work, and salvation**.

When Paul talks about salvation in this passage, he is referring to the process of sanctification.

⊞ *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms* defines "sanctification" as "The process or result of God's continuing work in Christian believers through the power of the Holy Spirit."

🔍 **obeyed (Phil. 2:12)** Strong's #: **G5219** Greek word: **hypakouō**

Strong's Definition: **to hear under (as a subordinate), i.e. to listen attentively; by implication, to heed or conform to a command or authority**

🔍 **work/works/worketh (Phil. 2:13a)** Strong's #: **G1754** Greek word: **energeō**

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition **1: to be operative, be at work, put forth power 1.1: to work for one, aid one**

Two Greek words are translated as "work" in this passage. The first Greek word (v. 12) refers to man's work and focuses on the action. However, *energeō* emphasizes the power involved. It is the same Greek word used to describe God's act of raising Christ from the dead (Eph. 1:20).

- Name the three ways Paul describes the believers' obedience.
  - **Always**
  - **In his presence**
  - **In his absence**
- How are they told to work out their salvation? **With fear and trembling**
- Why must they do this? **AWV. It is God who works in them.**
- What is the goal of God's work in them? **His good pleasure/purpose**
- How does this passage encourage you that before you can obey, God must work in you? **AWV.**

The Lord provides both the will and the way to obey Him. Without His power, we cannot walk in faith-based works any more than we can follow a works-based faith. Our faith only works because God is working in us!

### Read the references about obedience to God. Match each reference to the correct statement.

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| <u>  f  </u> The love of God is keeping His commandments.     | a. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 |
| <u>  d  </u> Be a slave to obedience and obey from the heart. | b. 1 Samuel 15:22     |
| <u>  b  </u> Obedience is better than sacrifice.              | c. Acts 5:29          |
| <u>  e  </u> Christ gave us an example of obedience.          | d. Romans 6:16-17     |
| <u>  a  </u> Blessings come on those who diligently obey.     | e. Philippians 2:5, 8 |
| <u>  c  </u> We must obey God instead of men.                 | f. 1 John 5:3         |

### 📝 Write your theme for Unit 4.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 4, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: Joshua 2:8-11

## PEOPLE OF FAITH • Rahab—Joshua 2:1-21

As we journey with the people of faith, we find they were also people of action who put feet to their faith and walked in fearless obedience. Such is the case with Rahab, the last of James' four examples in the study passage.

### Example #4: Rahab

Read James 2:25-26 and Joshua 2:1-21. Mark each location mentioned in Joshua 2:1-21.

1. Who commanded Rahab to bring out the spies? **The king of Jericho**
2. In light of verse 9, why did Rahab hide them instead? **AWV. She knew the Lord had given Israel the land.**

In the table fill in the information to uncover the belief in God that drove Rahab's actions.

Rahab's declarations about God's works (vv. 9-10):	AWV. The Lord has given you the land. The Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea.
Rahab's confession of faith in God (v. 11):	AWV. The Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath.

3. What must Rahab tie in the window in order to be delivered? **AWV. A scarlet cord**
4. Where must she and her family stay? **AWV. In her house**
5. Where was Rahab's home (v. 15)? **On/built into/upon/part of the city/town wall**
6. What would happen to the city wall (Hint: Josh. 6:2, 5)? **AWV. It would fall flat.**
7. When was Rahab justified by works (James 2:25)? **AWV. When she received the spies and sent them out another direction**

As Rahab discovered, sometimes the greatest work of faith is simply being still and letting God move on our behalf. **Discover the blessings of Rahab's bold obedience by using the cross-references to complete her biographical sketch post-Jericho:**

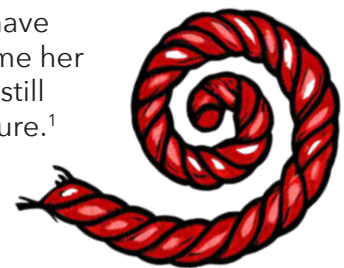
**Residence:** AWV. In Israel (Josh. 6:25)

**Spouse:** Salma/Salmon, son of Judah's tribal leader (Matt. 1:5; 1 Chron. 2:10-11)

**Child:** Boaz/Booz, direct ancestor of Jesus Christ (Matt. 1:5, part of the genealogical record of Christ in Matt. 1:1-17)

**Interesting fact:** Included in the "Hall of Faith" chapter (Heb. 11:31)

If the Lord were not God as Rahab declared, the scarlet cord could have become her death sentence; but because He is God, the cord became her deliverance. Modern excavation revealed a portion of Jericho's wall still standing—a testament to divine faithfulness and the validity of Scripture.<sup>1</sup> When all around her crumbled, this fearless woman, Rahab, stood firm in her knowledge that the Lord was God.





# NAVIGATE • UNIT 4, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: James 2:14-18

Complete the crossword puzzle to review this unit.

## ACROSS

2. Faith without works is dead.
4. What obedience is better than Sacrifice
7. Jesus taught that disobedience results in being called least in the kingdom of heaven.
8. A negative example of faith without works is someone who does not care for a needy brother.
11. Jesus told His followers living under Roman rule to walk more than the law required.
12. James uses the verb form of this word when talking about Abraham's faith and works. teleios

## DOWN

1. The Romans living in the Pax Romana experienced peace and prosperity.
3. The goal of God's work in us is His good pleasure (Phil. 2:12-13 KJV).
5. Greek word for "faith" pistis
6. Number of times ergon is found in James' epistle Fifteen
9. The Roman roads made spreading the gospel easier.
10. According to Titus 3:8, Christians should be engage in, devoted to good works.



## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Recite your memory passage, James 2:14-18. How can you thrive in your works this week? **To apply what you have learned in this unit, complete and initial one activity.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Meet a practical need for someone who is suffering.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Practice surrender to God by choosing something to sacrifice for a day (social media, etc.).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Ask God to reveal an area where fear is keeping you from surrender. Have a friend hold you accountable to your steps of obedience.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 4, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: Joshua 2:8-11

Review this unit before answering the questions.

### True or False

- F   1. In Matthew 25:31-46, Jesus addresses the needs of slaves.
- F   2. Rahab gave birth to a child named Salmon.
- T   3. A rhetorical question is asked to create an effect.
- T   4. An unclean spirit (demon) called Jesus the "Holy One of God."
- F   5. "To render [make] righteous" refers to the evidence of salvation.

### Matching

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| <u>  c  </u> 6. Rahab became a resident of Israel.  | a. Genesis 15:1-6, 18 |
| <u>  e  </u> 7. God's love cannot dwell in someone who does not care for a needy brother. | b. Genesis 22:1-17    |
| <u>  b  </u> 8. Abraham planned to worship.   | c. Joshua 6:25        |
| <u>  a  </u> 9. Abraham's faith was counted as righteousness.                             | d. Galatians 2:16     |
| <u>  d  </u> 10. A man is not justified by the works of the law.                          | e. 1 John 3:17-20     |

### Fill in the Blank

- 11. In James' first example, the needy believer was told to go in   peace  .
- 12. The spies Rahab received had come from   Shittim/Acacia Grove  .
- 13. The Greek word for "justified/considered righteous" is   dikaioō  .
- 14.   Sihon   and   Og   were kings of the Amorites.
- 15. According to Proverbs 3:27-28, we should not withhold   good   from those to whom it is due.

## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

James 2:23 reminds us that God is relational. Unlike the false deities of pagan religions, our God stoops down to commune with mankind. He created people in His own image so that they could have an intimate relationship with Him—something no other part of His creation enjoys.

**Ponder:** As God's image bearer, are you reflecting His relational nature in your attitude and actions?

Write down some areas of your life that can be impacted by embracing God's willingness to relate to you.

**Recite:** Memory passage, Joshua 2:8-11





## UNIT 5

# Thrive in Our Words

### DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Maturity: Grow in Wisdom

### KEY VERSES

*From the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, these things should not be this way. Does a spring send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, bear olives, or a vine bear figs? Nor can salt water produce fresh. Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. -James 3:10-13 (NASB)*

# LAUNCH • UNIT 5

## OVERVIEW

In James 3, we learn that what we say and how we live reflect what kind of wisdom—earthly or heavenly—we possess. Godly wisdom is proof of being mature as a Christian.

- **PRAYER**

God Is Our Creator—James 3:9

Nehemiah 9:6; Isaiah 45:9-12; Jeremiah 32:17;

Psalms 100:3

- **BACKGROUND STUDY**

Culture: Education in Ancient Israel

- **TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES**

- **DISCOVERY DESTINATION**

Maturity: Grow in Wisdom

- **PEOPLE OF FAITH**

Abigail—1 Samuel 25:1-35

## STUDY PASSAGE

James 3:1-18



## NAVIGATE MEMORY PASSAGE

James 3:7-13



## EXPLORE MEMORY PASSAGE

1 Samuel 25:32-33

## KEY VERSES

James 3:10-13



Key Verses



Keywords



Word Studies



Definitions



Themes



Geography



Before you begin your Discovery Journal lesson each day, pray using the verses provided. Then journal your prayers below using the acronym **PRAY**—**P**raise, **R**epent, **A**sk, **Y**ield.

	<h2>God Is Our Creator</h2> <p>James 3:9</p>	
---	--	---

Prepare your heart for the study of Scripture by worshiping God our creator. From Him come all things!

<b>Praise</b> —Read Nehemiah 9:6. Join the host of heaven in worshiping the One who created heaven, Earth, and the sea!
•
•
•
<b>Repent</b> —Read Isaiah 45:9-12. Ask your maker to search your heart and show you any area in which you may be resisting His work in your life.
•
•
•
<b>Ask</b> —Read Jeremiah 32:17. Is anything too hard for the One who created all things by His power? Bring bold requests before Him!
•
•
•
<b>Yield</b> —Read Psalm 100:3. We belong to the One who made us. As your creator, what is God asking you to surrender to Him?
•
•
•



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 5, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 3:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 3:7-13

In the last unit's study passage, James exhorted his readers to thrive in works; now he encourages them to thrive in words. Though he specifically addresses those wanting to be teachers, his exhortations in this chapter are important for all believers.

Read the study passage, James 3:1-18, and mark the key verses, James 3:10-13, in your Bible.

Mark the keywords **teachers/masters** and **tongue**.

**tongue (James 3:5)** Strong's #: **G1100** Greek word: **glōssa**

*Outline of Biblical Usage* Definition I: **the tongue, a member of the body, an organ of speech**

1. How does James address his readers in verse 1? **My brothers/brethren/fellow believers**
2. What group of people does he mention in verse 1? **Teachers/masters**
3. Who is a perfect (*teleios*) man? **AWV. Someone who does not offend in speech**
4. What is someone who does not stumble in his words also able to direct? **The/his/their whole body**
5. What is the tongue able to do to the whole body? **AWV. Defile/stain/corrupt it.**
6. Who can tame the tongue? **No one among mankind/no human being/man**
7. Describe the person in verse 13 who has good conduct in meekness of wisdom. **AWV. A person who is wise and understanding/endued with knowledge**
8. What types of wisdom does James contrast? **AWV. Wisdom that does not come down from above and wisdom from above**

Identifying key exhortations and commands in a study passage helps us discover passage divisions. **Complete the paraphrased exhortations from the study passage. Answer the question about each exhortation.**

Reference	Exhortation	Question
James 3:1	Do not let many of you become <u>teachers/masters</u> .	Why? <b>AWV. You know that we teachers will receive stricter judgment.</b>
James 3:13	By good <u>behavior/conduct/ conversation/life</u> , let him show his <u>deeds/works</u> in the humility of <u>wisdom</u> .	Who? <b>AWV. Those among you who are wise and understanding/endued with knowledge</b>

Teachers. Tongue. Wisdom. How do these topics relate? While many people desire to teach the Word, few are ready to be tested by the high standard of wise speech and conduct. An unbridled tongue tells of a worthless religion (James 1:26), but a mature teacher is controlled by the Holy Spirit.

From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more. -Luke 12:48b (NASB)




# EXPLORE • UNIT 5, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 3:1-18 | Memory Passage: 1 Samuel 25:32-33

In our English translation of James, we find many figures of speech to help us understand spiritual truth. Among these are the metaphor, simile, analogy, and personification.

Label each figure of speech from James as either a metaphor, simile, or personification.

- Simile A doubting man is like a wave of the sea (James 1:6).
- Metaphor You are a mist that appears for only a little time (James 4:14).
- Personification Your gold and silver's corrosion will eat your flesh like fire (James 5:3).

 Reread the study passage and mark all metaphors for the tongue.

1. What adjectives describe the tongue (vv. 5, 8)? **Small/little, restless/unruly**
2. What actions does the tongue perform?
  - (v. 5) **AWV. Boasts great things**
  - (v. 6) **AWV. Defiles the whole body and sets the entire course of nature on fire**
  - (v. 9) **AWV. Blesses God and curses men**
3. The people who are cursed are made in the likeness of whom? **God**
4. What object does James use in verse 11 to show how strange it is for the tongue to both bless and curse? **A spring/fountain**

Fill in the blanks and unscramble the letters to complete each statement based on the tongue analogies in James 3.

- A bit controls a **ohres** horse in the hands of a jockey.  
 A rudder/helm controls a **spih** ship in the hands of a captain.  
 A fire/spark ignites a **frstoe** forest in the hands of an arsonist.

These examples demonstrate how something small can produce a big impact. Read Proverbs 18:21 and write what two outcomes can result from the use of the tongue. **Death, life**

James' rudder analogy reveals an incredible principle about our tongues. Read the verse and answer the questions.

Look at the ships too: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are nevertheless directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot determines. -James 3:4 (NASB)

5. What controls the direction of the ship? **A very small rudder**
6. Who controls the rudder? **The pilot**
7. What determines where the rudder goes? **AWV. The pilot's inclination**

Just as the captain's inclination controls the ship's rudder, so it is similar with our tongues. Complete the Growth cipher to discover what lies behind the power of our speech.

The  → d e s i r e s of our hearts determine the  
 → d i r e c t i o n of our words.

Evil desires result in death through the tongue, but Spirit-led desires lead to words of life!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 5, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 3:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 3:7-13

## BACKGROUND STUDY • Culture: Education in Ancient Israel

Education was a valued aspect of ancient Jewish culture. From King Solomon who prayed for wisdom to the scribes who pored over the Law, God’s people have always sought to grow in their understanding. We have few resources on early Israel’s education available to us, but we can glean interesting facts from these and from the Bible.

The family was the primary educational institution, and both parents took part in training their children. Vocational training was very important, since many—if not most—jobs required more manual than academic skill. Boys were often educated in the trade of their fathers. Wealthier families could afford to educate their sons in elementary schools, where some young men were instructed in Greek education. Girls, on the other hand, were mostly trained in domestic skills. They learned the arts of cooking, caring for children, and other aspects of running a household. Some women were gifted in handicrafts (Ex. 35:25). We know from the Proverbs 31 Woman that some had knowledge in real estate investment and business (Prov. 31:16, 24). For both sons and daughters, Jewish parents valued the training of their children.<sup>1</sup>



Central to Jewish academics was the Law of Moses, the Torah, which is the first five books of the Bible. Children were taught the Shema, a prayer from Deuteronomy 6:4-9, found in the Torah. Scribes carefully preserved the Torah. Kings were instructed to write their own copy of the Torah to read all their days (Deut. 17:18-19). Families regularly attended the synagogue, where they listened to the reading of the Torah. And listening was not enough—it was important to understand the Law. In the book of Nehemiah, the Levites were among those responsible for explaining the Law’s meaning during public readings (Neh. 8:1, 7-8).

This passion for God’s truth goes back to the early days of the Law, when Moses urged the people to teach the Torah to their children and incorporate it into daily life (Deut. 6:6-9). During Christ’s earthly ministry, He frequently quoted from the Torah, and He often did so without sourcing it. It seems that Jesus expected His listeners to know what was being recited.

While the ancient Jews valued education, it was not for the sake of learning alone. The God of the universe had communicated His divine message to them, and many Jews were zealous to understand it. Their passion for the Torah inspires us to pursue the entirety of God’s Word—the best resource for growing in wisdom.



The following biblical examples show a diversity of Jewish education, both academic and vocational. **Read the references and match each type of education with the person or people who received it.**

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <u>  d  </u> 1. Biology (1 Kings 4:29, 33)      | a. Paul                               |
| <u>  c  </u> 2. Metalwork (1 Kings 7:13-14)     | b. Sons of Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun |
| <u>  b  </u> 3. Music (1 Chron. 25:1, 6-7)      | c. Hiram/Huram                        |
| <u>  e  </u> 4. Art of military (2 Chron. 25:5) | d. Solomon                            |
| <u>  f  </u> 5. The Law of Moses (Ezra 7:6)     | e. Men of Judah and Benjamin          |
| <u>  a  </u> 6. The law (Acts 21:40; 22:3)      | f. Ezra                               |



# EXPLORE • UNIT 5, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 3:1-18 | Memory Passage: 1 Samuel 25:32-33

🔑 Read the study passage, noting the theme of wisdom introduced in verse 13. Mark the keywords **behavior/conduct/conversation/life** and **wisdom**.

🔍 **behavior/conduct/conversation/life (James 3:13)** Strong's #: **G391** Greek word: **anastrophē**

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition I: **manner of life, conduct, behaviour, deportment**

🔍 **wisdom (James 3:13)** Strong's #: **G4678** Greek word: **sophia**

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition I.1.G: **the knowledge and practice of the requisites for godly and upright living**

In James 3:13, James uses *sophos*, the root word of *sophia*, to call out the wise among his readers. The term *sophos* was used for the spiritual teachers of James' day. Its use here implies that James is still directing this portion of his letter to teachers and would-be teachers.

1. The teacher is instructed to have what kind of conduct (v. 13)? **Good**
2. How must their deeds be done (v. 13)? **AWV. In the meekness of wisdom**
3. What warning is given in the second half of verse 14? **AWV. Do not boast or be false to the truth.**

A teacher must be wary, not only of the words he speaks, but also of the lifestyle he follows. Intellect alone does not qualify someone as an instructor of the Word. Heavenly wisdom is evidenced by good behavior just as much as good speech.

**Fill in the blanks to deepen your understanding of the study passage.**

4. The sinful qualities in verse 14 are not the wisdom from above.
5. If these sinful qualities abide in us, we should not boast or deny the truth.
6. According to 1 John 1:8, if we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves.

**Complete the table. Then fill in the blanks to discover what each type of wisdom results in.**

Gentle and considerate    Demonic    Full of mercy and good fruit  
 Jealous    Striving and selfish    Willing to yield    Unspiritual  
 Sincere    Earthly    Pure    Impartial    Peaceable

Heavenly Wisdom	Earthly Wisdom
Pure	Jealous
Peaceable	Striving and selfish
Gentle and considerate	Earthly
Willing to yield	Unspiritual
Full of mercy and good fruit	Demonic
Impartial	
Sincere	
<b>Result (v. 18)</b> A harvest of <u>righteousness</u>	<b>Result (v. 16)</b> <u>Disorder/confusion</u> and every evil work



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 5, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 3:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 3:7-13

**Read James 3:1-12 and mark the keywords bless/praise and curse.**

Why is praising God but cursing people such serious sin? **Read the references to find out.**

### Genesis 5:1-2

1. When God created male and female, in addition to naming them, what did He do? **AWV. Made them in His likeness and blessed them**

### Psalm 8:1, 4-5

2. Whom did God make mankind a little lower than? **God/the heavenly beings/angels**

### 1 John 4:20

3. What is someone who says they love God but hates his brother or sister? **A liar**

God hates hypocrisy and considers our treatment of others—in this case, the way we talk to them—the actual indicator of our relationship with Him. What kind of speaking is consistent with Christian maturity? **To find out, match each description with the correct reference.**

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <u>  c  </u> Speaking the truth in love        | a. Proverbs 10:19 |
| <u>  d  </u> Speaking to build up with grace   | b. Proverbs 31:26 |
| <u>  b  </u> Speaking with wisdom and kindness | c. Ephesians 4:15 |
| <u>  a  </u> Speaking with self-control        | d. Ephesians 4:29 |

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

Both James and Jesus address topics about the tongue, peace, and mercy. **Use the references to complete Jesus' teachings. Match James' tenets with the teachings.**

James 3:10    James 3:17    James 3:18

Tenet of James	Teaching of Jesus
James 3:10	"You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the <u>  mouth  </u> speaks what the heart is full of" (Matt. 12:34 NIV).
James 3:18	"Blessed are the <u>  peacemakers  </u> : for they shall be called the children of God" (Matt. 5:9 KJV).
James 3:17	"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive <u>  mercy  </u> " (Matt. 5:7 NASB).



*Proverbs Pearl*

The books of Proverbs and James contain wisdom regarding a topic we need to master daily. **Read James 3:2. Then mark the cross-reference from Proverbs that is most similar to the concept found in James.**

- Proverbs 18:21     Proverbs 10:20     Proverbs 21:23

According to the similar passages in James and Proverbs, what must we control to show maturity and righteousness? **AWV. What we say, our mouth and tongue**





# EXPLORE • UNIT 5, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 3:1-18 | Memory Passage: 1 Samuel 25:32-33

Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, James teaches that heavenly wisdom is full of good fruit. In contrast, earthly wisdom produces disorder and every evil work. As seen in the study passage, the type of wisdom we possess is revealed in our speech and behavior.

In the Gospels, Jesus taught that good fruit is evidenced by good words.

 **Read Matthew 12:33-37 and mark the keywords fruit, mouth, and heart.**

1. How is a tree known? **By its/his fruit**
2. What does the mouth speak from? **That which fills the heart/the abundance of the heart/ what the heart is full of**
3. What will we be accountable for on the day of judgment? **AWV. Every careless word**

The words we speak are the fruit of either good or bad thoughts planted within. Thriving in wise words requires thinking the right thoughts.

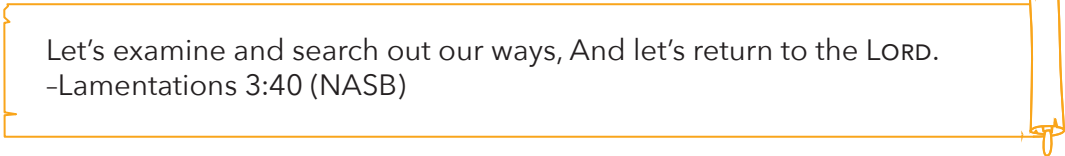
In his epistle, James teaches that good fruit is evidenced in wise conduct. **Read examples of this fruit in James 3:13-18, noting the contrast between wisdom from above and wisdom of the earth.**

Observing the good and bad examples of people in Scripture prompts us to evaluate which type of wisdom is on display in our own lives. **Read the references and complete the table below.**

Reference	Person	Event	Fruit of Wisdom	Earthly or Heavenly
Genesis 37:9-11	Joseph's brothers	<b>AWV. Joseph told them his dreams.</b>	<b>AWV. Jealousy</b>	Earthly
Exodus 18:13-16	<b>Moses</b>	He settled matters among the people.	Peaceable	<b>Heavenly</b>
Matthew 19:16-22	Rich young man	<b>AWV. He didn't want to give up his riches.</b>	Selfish Ambition	<b>Earthly</b>
Mark 5:1-13	Demoniac of Gerasenes	<b>AWV. A man was possessed with demons.</b>	<b>AWV. Demonic</b>	<b>Earthly</b>
Luke 22:41-42	<b>Jesus</b>	He yielded to the will of the Father.	Willing to yield	<b>Heavenly</b>
Act 9:36	<b>Tabitha/Dorcas</b>	She was always doing good and helping the poor.	<b>AWV. Full of mercy and good fruit</b>	Heavenly

Is your life producing the fruit of heavenly or earthly wisdom? Evaluate your speech and conduct in light of the qualities James describes. If you see selfishness and strife, ask the Lord to cleanse your heart and help you start sowing in such a way as to reap a harvest of righteousness. By looking to the source of true wisdom, transformation is possible!

Let's examine and search out our ways, And let's return to the LORD.  
 -Lamentations 3:40 (NASB)





# NAVIGATE • UNIT 5, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 3:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 3:7-13

## DISCOVERY DESTINATION • Maturity: Grow in Wisdom

Read James 3:13-18.

Besides being a key facet of Christian maturity, what is wisdom? Read Job 28:28 and write the answer. **The fear of the Lord**

Nearly one-fourth of the Bible's references to "wisdom" are found in the book of Proverbs. Read the Proverbs cross-references and fill in the blanks to complete each wisdom statement. Match each summary with the correct title.

- a. Wisdom's source    b. Wisdom pursued    c. Wisdom's reward    d. Wisdom's warning

- d   1. Those who refuse wisdom will have distress and   anguish/trouble   come upon and overwhelm them. When they do call on wisdom, she will not   answer  , because they did not   choose   the fear of the Lord (Prov. 1:20, 24-29).
- a   2. The Lord   gives/giveth     wisdom  . He stores up sound wisdom and success for the   upright/righteous   (Prov. 2:6-7).
- c   3. In wisdom's right hand is   long life/length of days  ; in her left hand are   riches   and   honor  . She is a tree of   life   to those who lay hold of her (Prov. 3:13, 15-18).
- b   4.   Acquire/get   wisdom and understanding.   Prize/exalt/cherish   her, and she will promote and exalt you. She will honor you if you   embrace   her (Prov. 4:5-8).

Even Jesus, the omniscient Son of God, increased in wisdom during His life on earth. As in every other area of maturity, He is our example! Read the following references which either foretell or narrate Christ's earthly life of wisdom. Then circle the correct answer in each statement.

- **Isaiah 11:2-3** The spirit of wisdom would (rest, remain) on Jesus. He would delight in the (fear, glory) of the Lord.
- **Isaiah 50:4** (Evening by evening, Morning by morning), Jesus listened as someone who is taught.
- **Luke 2:40, 52** Jesus grew in wisdom and in (favor with, love for) God and man.

Decode the message in this cryptogram to reveal a title for Jesus given in 1 Corinthians 1:24.

Each letter in the phrase has been replaced with a random letter or number. As you solve each letter in the puzzle, write its corresponding letter in the box to fill in the other blanks.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
2	-	16	8	6	1	11	10	14	-	-	-	7	12	3	9	-	15	5	13	-	-	4	-	-	-

  C  H  R  I  S  T        T  H  E        P  O  W  E  R        A  N  D    
 16 10 15 14 5 13    13 10 6    9 3 4 6 15    2 12 8  
  
  W  I  S  D  O  M        O  F        G  O  D    
 4 14 5 8 3 7    3 1    11 3 8

Write your theme for Unit 5.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 5, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 3:1-18 | Memory Passage: 1 Samuel 25:32-33

## PEOPLE OF FAITH • Abigail—1 Samuel 25:1-35

 Read 1 Samuel 25:1-35 and mark the keyword **discernment/discretion/advice/good judgment**.

1. What business was Nabal doing in Carmel? **AWV. Shearing his sheep**
2. On what kind of day did David ask to share in Nabal's provisions (v. 8)? **A festive/feast/good day/time**

In biblical times, sheep-shearing was not only an occasion to collect the income-producing wool, but a joyous community affair—a time when generous hospitality was extended.

3. How do we know Nabal's servants respected Abigail (vv. 14-17)? **AWV. One of them went to her to see what she could do about the harm plotted against Nabal and his household.**
4. Did Abigail excuse Nabal's foolish behavior to David? **No**
5. Whom did Abigail point out as keeping David from bloodshed and revenge? **The Lord**
6. What position did Abigail recognize was in David's future (v. 30)? **Ruler/prince over Israel**
7. What request did Abigail make at the end? **AWV. Remember your servant.**
8. Whom did David praise and bless in his response? **AWV. The Lord God of Israel, Abigail**

Observe the table comparing Abigail's wisdom with the heavenly wisdom described in James 3:17. Unscramble the letters to complete the statements.

1 Samuel 25 (NASB)	Abigail's Words and Wisdom	Heavenly Wisdom
vv. 23-24	Abigail approached David respectfully as his <b>alevs</b> _____ <b>slave</b> _____.	Pure
vv. 25, 27	Abigail asked David to disregard Nabal and offered a <b>fitg</b> _____ <b>gift</b> _____.	Peaceable
v. 24	Abigail asked permission to <b>aspke</b> _____ <b>speak</b> _____ to David.	Gentle and considerate
v. 23	Abigail <b>bedow</b> _____ <b>bowed</b> _____ herself to the ground.	Willing to yield
vv. 30-31	Because of Abigail's gracious appeal, David would not have a <b>rbedluot</b> _____ <b>troubled</b> _____ heart because he shed blood and <b>dageenv</b> _____ <b>avenged</b> _____ himself.	Full of mercy and good fruit
v. 27	Abigail asked for her gift to be given to the young <b>nem</b> _____ <b>men</b> _____ with David.	Impartial
v. 28	Abigail asked David to forgive the <b>oenfsfe</b> _____ <b>offense</b> _____ of his slave.	Sincere

Nabal reflected the selfish, earthly wisdom resulting in disorder and evil. But thankfully, Abigail refused to let his character determine hers. Because of her wise response to Nabal's foolishness, disaster was diverted and many lives were spared. Scripture tells us that God struck foolish Nabal, but the widowed Abigail went on to marry the future ruler of Israel—David himself (1 Sam. 25:36-42).



## WORD SEARCH

Answer the questions or fill in the blanks. Then find and circle the answers in the word search puzzle. Words can go in any direction (vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forward, or backward). Words may cross each other and can share letters.

### CLUES

1. James contrasts two types of this in the study passage. **Wisdom**
2. Isaiah 11:2-3 foretold that Jesus would delight in the **fear** of the Lord.
3. The Greek word for "tongue" **glōssa**
4. We should speak the truth in this. **Love**
5. **Riches** and honor are in wisdom's left hand.
6. Individual educated in biology in 1 Kings 4:29, 33 **Solomon**
7. The Proverbs 31 Woman had knowledge in **business** and real estate investment.
8. Type of wisdom the Lord stores up for the upright and righteous **Sound**
9. Jesus said these people would be called the children of God. **Peacemakers**
10. No human can **tame** the tongue.



### KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Recite your memory passage, James 3:7-13. How can you thrive in your words this week? **To apply what you have learned in this unit, complete and initial one activity.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Begin each day asking God to control your tongue.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Each day, commit to speaking an encouraging word to someone who is weary.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. When someone acts selfishly, give a response of humility and wisdom as Abigail did.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 5, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 3:1-18 | Memory Passage: 1 Samuel 25:32-33

Review this unit before answering the questions.

### True or False

- F   1. Abigail asked David to bless his servant.
- T   2. Abigail asked for her gift to be given to the men with David.
- F   3. James uses the analogy of an olive tree in the study passage.
- T   4. The result of heavenly wisdom is a harvest of righteousness.
- F   5. When James compares people to a mist, he is using a simile.

### Matching

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <u>  e  </u> 6. We deceive ourselves if we say we have no sin.          | a. Proverbs 18:21   |
| <u>  d  </u> 7. The first trait of heavenly wisdom is purity.           | b. Matthew 12:33-37 |
| <u>  b  </u> 8. People are both justified and condemned by their words. | c. Acts 9:36        |
| <u>  a  </u> 9. Death and life are in the tongue's power.               | d. James 3:17       |
| <u>  c  </u> 10. Tabitha did good and helped the poor.                  | e. 1 John 1:8       |

### Fill in the Blank

- 11. The   desires   of our hearts determine the direction of our words.
- 12. Nabal sheared his sheep in   Carmel  .
- 13. The Greek word for "behavior/conduct/conversation/life" is   anastrophē  .
- 14.   Moses   settled matters among the people.
- 15. The word *sophia* means "the knowledge and   practice   of the requisites for godly and upright living."

## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

James 3:17 reminds us that God is wise. As Lord of all, His understanding is infinite and His way is perfect. He makes foolish the wisdom of the world but delights in sharing heavenly wisdom with those who ask (1 Cor. 1:20; James 1:5). Though He allows us glimpses of His wisdom, no one can fathom its fullest depths (Rom. 11:33)!

**Ponder:** As God's image bearer, are you reflecting His wise nature in your attitude and actions?

Write down some areas of your life that can be impacted by embracing God's wisdom.

**Recite:** Memory passage, 1 Samuel 25:32-33





## UNIT 6

# Thrive in Our Walk

### DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Maturity: Grow with Purpose

### KEY VERSES

*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.*

-James 4:7-10 (KJV)

# LAUNCH • UNIT 6

## OVERVIEW

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, James urges his readers toward maturity by highlighting several aspects of the Christian walk—unity among believers, repentance from sin, and a wise mindset regarding time. He rebukes the believers for their divided hearts toward God and ultimately calls them to a life of purpose.

- **PRAYER**

God Is Our Lawgiver—James 4:12

Psalm 19:7 and Psalm 119:97; Psalm 94:12–13;  
Isaiah 33:22; Psalm 119:1

- **BACKGROUND STUDY**

Sociology: Vocations in Ancient Israel

- **TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES**

- **DISCOVERY DESTINATION**

Maturity: Grow with Purpose

- **PEOPLE OF FAITH**

Elijah—1 Kings 18:20–40

## STUDY PASSAGE

James 4:1–17



## NAVIGATE MEMORY PASSAGE

James 4:6–10



## EXPLORE MEMORY PASSAGE

1 Kings 18:36–39

## KEY VERSES

James 4:7–10



Key Verses



Keywords



Word Studies



Definitions



Themes



Geography



# PRAYER • UNIT 6

Before you begin your Discovery Journal lesson each day, pray using the verses provided. Then journal your prayers below using the acronym **PRAY**—**P**raise, **R**epent, **A**sk, **Y**ield.

## God Is Our Lawgiver James 4:12

Prepare your heart for the study of Scripture by exalting the One who gave His righteous law. In His hand is the power to save and to destroy.

<b>Praise</b> —Read Psalm 19:7 and Psalm 119:97. Pray through these verses as you adore the God who gave us His perfect law.
•
•
•
<b>Repent</b> —Read Psalm 94:12-13. Confess the ways you have strayed from God’s law and choose to embrace what He is teaching you.
•
•
•
<b>Ask</b> —Read Isaiah 33:22. The knowledge that God is our Lawgiver is comforting for those who are His! Bring to Him any specific area in which you need His justice and help.
•
•
•
<b>Yield</b> —Read Psalm 119:1. What must you surrender to help you walk blamelessly in God’s law?
•
•
•



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 6, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: James 4:6-10

In this unit we see the undivided purpose of heart that drives a mature believer's walk with God.

Read the study passage, James 4:1-17, and mark the key verses, James 4:7-10, in your Bible.

Mark the keyword **double-minded**.

**double-minded (James 4:8)** Strong's #: **G1374** Greek word: **dipsychos**

Strong's Definition: **two-spirited, i.e. vacillating (in opinion or purpose)**

This Greek word is also found in James 1:8. How is the double-minded man described in this verse? **Unstable in all his ways/all they do**

1. What sins does James address in verse 1? **AWV. Fights and conflicts**
2. Why are the people not receiving what they ask for? **AWV. They ask wrongly.**
3. What contrasting descriptions are given in verse 4b? **Friend, enemy**
4. Can someone serve two masters (Hint: Matt. 6:24)? **No**
5. What cause and effect does James describe in the first half of verse 8? **AWV. Draw close to God, and He will draw close to you.**
6. What are the double-minded told to do? **Purify your hearts.**
7. How long is the time frame of man's life, according to verse 14? **A little while/time**

Time is short. Believers must not waver in purpose but live right with God and with each other! By repenting of sin and drawing near to the Lord, we can live wisely before God and graciously before others.

The following passage divisions summarize key themes throughout the study passage. **Complete the Thrive cipher to discover several ways believers are encouraged to walk.**

- James 4:1-5 Walk in → U n i t y
- James 4:6-10 Walk in → R e p e n t a n c e
- James 4:11-12 Walk without → J u d g i n g
- James 4:13-17 Walk in God's → W i l l

**Match each sentence with the correct quality.** Answers will be used more than once.

- a. Unity    b. Repentance    c. Without judging    d. God's will

- c   Who are you to judge your neighbor?
- b   Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will lift you up.
- d   You ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that."
- a   Don't you know that friendship with the world is enmity with God?
- a   What causes quarrels and conflicts among you?
- c   Do not speak evil of each other, brothers and sisters.
- b   Wash your hands, you sinners.
- d   If anyone knows the good to do but does not do it, it is sin for him.




# EXPLORE • UNIT 6, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: 1 Kings 18:36-39

In the beginning of the study passage, James is still writing in the vein of peace versus disorder. He brings this topic home to his readers by placing them face-to-face with the conflict in their own relationships.

 Reread the study passage and mark the keywords **pleasures/passions/lusts/desires, friend, and world**.

 pleasures/passions/lusts/desires (James 4:1) Strong's #: **G2237** Greek word: **hēdonē**

Strong's Definition: **sensual delight; by implication, desire**

This Greek word is the root of the English word "hedonism," a philosophy that promotes pleasure as the end goal of life. Sadly, some Christians forget their purpose and become ruled by their passions instead.

**Read the verses below. Underline the phrase explaining why the people ask wrongly. Then answer the questions to discover how wrong desires lead to unfulfillment.** Note that "passions" is translated from *hēdonē*.

You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.  
-James 4:2-3 (ESV)

1. How do the people react to not receiving what they desire? **AWV. They murder.**
2. How do they react to not obtaining what they covet? **AWV. They fight and quarrel.**
3. Why do they not have? **AWV. They do not ask.**
4. Why do they not receive what they ask for? **AWV. Because they ask wrongly**

The people's passion for pleasure not only impacts their relationships with others, but also with God. To be fully unified with fellow believers, we must be undivided in our desire to follow Him. **Using the cross-references in parentheses, complete the outline expounding on James 4:4.**

### Friendship with the World and Enmity with God

- I. Spiritual adulteresses desire to be a friend of the world (v. 4).
  - A. The desires of the **flesh**, the desires of the **eyes**, and the **boastful pride/pride** of life are of the world (1 John 2:15-16).
  - B. We have been betrothed to one **husband**, Christ, and our minds must not be led astray (2 Cor. 11:2-3).
- II. Spiritual adulteresses become enemies of God (v. 4).
  - A. God fights against those who have rebelled and have **grieved/vexed** His Holy Spirit (Isa. 63:10).
  - B. The desires of the **flesh** and the desires of the **Spirit** are opposed to each other (Gal. 5:17).



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 6, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: James 4:6-10

## BACKGROUND STUDY • Sociology: Vocations in Ancient Israel

From fishermen to farmers, from kings to carpenters—the Bible speaks of many occupations in ancient Israel. God’s people engaged in multiple lines of work. Agricultural jobs were perhaps the most common, but military service was also an important field. Religiously and politically, the Sanhedrin council was a distinguished area in which to serve.

The religious offices of the priests and Levites were filled by men from the tribe of Levi. The priests and Levites were not compensated in the traditional sense but lived off the tithes of the Israelites. The Levites collected tithes from the people, then gave a portion to the priests (Num. 18:20, 26, 28). Additionally, the Levites and priests were not given an inheritance of land as other Israelites possessed—the Lord was their inheritance (Deut. 18:1-2).

Primarily, women were keepers of their homes and families, while men usually provided with work outside their dwellings. However, the Bible records some women as serving in either secular or religious roles (such as business dealers, prophetesses, and even professional mourners) as well. Some of Christ’s female followers supported Him with their resources, though the Bible does not tell us the source of their finances (Luke 8:1-3).

Reading about the different vocations of Bible characters reminds us that God does not regard a person based on wealth or social status. He sees the heart (1 Sam. 16:7). Observing the wide variety of work in which His followers were involved encourages us that what we do is not nearly as important as who we are in Christ. It also inspires us to fully glorify the Lord in the sphere where He has placed us, as many of these individuals did. Some had secular and some had religious jobs, but all were capable of serving God!

**Read the references and match each vocation with the correct person or people.**

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <u>  e  </u> 1. Midwife (Ex. 1:15)                   | a. Eli                         |
| <u>  d  </u> 2. Judge (Judg. 3:9-10)                 | b. Huldah                      |
| <u>  a  </u> 3. Priest (1 Sam. 1:9)                  | c. Simon (Peter) and Andrew    |
| <u>  f  </u> 4. Prophet (1 Sam. 3:20)                | d. Othniel                     |
| <u>  b  </u> 5. Prophetess (2 Kings 22:14)           | e. Shiphrah and Puah           |
| <u>  h  </u> 6. Cupbearer (Neh. 1:1, 11)             | f. Samuel                      |
| <u>  j  </u> 7. Shepherd (Amos 1:1)                  | g. Simon                       |
| <u>  c  </u> 8. Fisherman (Matt. 4:18)               | h. Nehemiah                    |
| <u>  g  </u> 9. Tanner (Acts 9:43)                   | i. Lydia                       |
| <u>  i  </u> 10. Seller of purple goods (Acts 16:14) | j. Amos                        |
| <u>  k  </u> 11. Tentmaker (Acts 18:1-3)             | k. Paul, Aquila, and Priscilla |



# EXPLORE • UNIT 6, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: 1 Kings 18:36-39

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, James shifts from probing questions about his readers' relationship with God and others to clear commands on how they can change.

**Read the study passage and mark the keywords *grace/favor* and *humble*. Circle the transition words in verse 6.**

**grace/favor (James 4:6)** Strong's #: **G5485** Greek word: **charis**

*Outline of Biblical Usage* Definition II.1: of the merciful **kindness** by which God, exerting his **holy influence** upon souls, turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens, **increases** them in **Christian faith**, knowledge, affection, and **kindles** them to the exercise of the **Christian virtues**

**humble (James 4:10)** Strong's #: **G5013** Greek word: **tapeinoō**

Strong's Definition: **to depress; figuratively, to humiliate (in condition or heart)**

Following James' rebuke of the believers' sin in James 4:1-5, we find two hope-infused promises.

1. What does God give (v. 6a)? **A greater/more grace**
2. To whom does God give grace (v. 6b)? **The humble**

Humility unclogs our hearts of pride so we can receive more of God's grace. **Unscramble the letters to complete the summary below.**

Since God gives grace to the humble, **stimub** submit to Him. **steirs** Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw **rane** near to God, and He will draw near to you. **nalcees** Cleanse your hands and **fupryi** purify your hearts. Be wretched and **ronum** mourn and weep! Change your **terlguah** laughter to mourning and your **yjo** joy to grief. **eumblh** Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

The commands above are not a formula to follow but a call from God to come near. They summarize the beautiful concept of repentance, a vital part of Christian maturity.

**According to Webster's Dictionary 1828, "repentance" is "Sorrow or deep contrition for sin, as an offense and dishonor to God...accompanied and followed by amendment of life. Repentance is a change of mind."**

**Read Acts 26:20 and answer the questions regarding the process of repentance.**

3. To whom must people turn when they repent? **God**
4. What should be done in keeping with repentance? **Deeds/works**

From the exhortation to repent and choose humility, James segues into the topic of how we speak about fellow believers. When we are repentant over our own sin, we are less likely to judge others.

**Reread James 4:11-12.**

5. What is actually being judged by the person who judges his brother? **The law**
6. What question does James ask his readers regarding their judgmental spirit? **AWV. Who are you to judge your neighbor?**



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 6, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: James 4:6-10

🔑 Read the study passage and mark the keywords **the Lord wills** and **arrogance/boastings/arrogant schemes**.

🔍 arrogance/boastings/arrogant schemes (James 4:16)

Strong's #: **G212**

Greek word: **alazoneia**

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition III: **an impious and empty presumption which trusts in the stability of earthly things**

In stride with his call to humility, James rebukes the believers' prideful presumption and counters it with a beautiful alternative—the will of the Lord. He reminds the believers to not boast about what they want to do, but instead accomplish the good they ought to do!

A mature Christian sees life as a vapor and prioritizes accordingly. **Learn how to thrive in your stewardship of time by matching each cross-reference with the correct statement.**

- |              |   |                      |
|--------------|---|----------------------|
| <u>  a  </u> | 1. Since our days pass quickly, we should ask God to teach us how to number them. | a. Psalm 90:10-12    |
| <u>  d  </u> | 2. Act wisely toward outsiders, redeeming the opportunity.                        | b. Proverbs 3:27-28  |
| <u>  e  </u> | 3. Since everything will be dissolved, what kind of people should we be?          | c. Ephesians 5:15-17 |
| <u>  b  </u> | 4. Do not procrastinate doing good.   | d. Colossians 4:5    |
| <u>  c  </u> | 5. Walk wisely with your time and understand the Lord's will.                     | e. 2 Peter 3:11-12   |

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

Both James and Jesus addressed the topics of a pure heart, judging, and boasting. **Use the references to complete Jesus' teachings. Match James' tenets with the teachings.**

James 4:8    James 4:10    James 4:12

Tenet of James	Teaching of Jesus
James 4:10	"For all those who <u>  exalt  </u> themselves will be humbled, and those who <u>  humble  </u> themselves will be exalted" (Luke 14:11 NIV).
James 4:8	"Blessed are the <u>  pure  </u> in heart: for they shall see God" (Matt. 5:8 KJV).
James 4:12	" <u>  Judge  </u> not, that you be not <u>  judged  </u> ." (Matt. 7:1 ESV).

Repetition of teaching in Scripture indicates its important. **Read James 4:16, and mark the cross-reference from Proverbs that is most similar.**

- Proverbs 27:1     Proverbs 11:2     Proverbs 27:2

What is condemned in the similar passages in James and Proverbs? **Boasting**





# EXPLORE • UNIT 6, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: 1 Kings 18:36-39

Living faith works in genuine repentance. Dead faith attempts a counterfeit repentance. How can we tell the difference?

**Read Proverbs 28:13-14.** This passage contrasts repentance and unrepentance. **Use these verses to complete the descriptions.**

**Repentance:** the action of someone who confesses/confesseth and abandons/forsakes/forsaketh/renounces their sins

**Unrepentance:** the action of someone who conceals/covereth/covers his sins and hardens/hardeneth his heart

The Pharisees and Sadducees reflected counterfeit repentance. **Read Matthew 3:1-2, 7-9.** **Use the Growth cipher to summarize what this passage reveals.**

False repentance may show up at the right  → p l a c e but with the wrong  → h e a r t.

The religious leaders of John the Baptist’s day serve as a warning to those who make a fake show of penitence yet fail to turn from sin in their heart and life. It is possible to adopt “penitent” words or attitudes that are not accompanied by repentant actions.

Using the examples of two of Christ’s disciples, the following table contrasts true and false repentance. **Read the references and fill in the blanks with the following: the sin committed; the sinner’s verbal or emotional response to his sin; and his final action.**

	Peter Matthew 26:69-75; Acts 4:13, 18-20	Judas Matthew 27:1-5
Sin	AWV. Denied Jesus three times	AWV. Betrayed Jesus
Response	Wept bitterly	AWV. Said he had sinned
Action	AWV. Spoke boldly in Jesus’ name	Hanged himself

Judas ended his life as an enemy of Christ, while Peter returned to Christ (Luke 22:31-32; John 21:17). Judas may have had a change of mind, but Peter had a true change of heart.

In Joel 2:12-13, God lovingly calls His people to genuine repentance. **Read the passage and circle the answer that makes each statement true.**

1. God urges His people to return to Him with all their (heart) soul).
2. God says to rend their (garments, hearts).
3. God says to return because He is (gracious) just).
4. God says to return because He is slow to (answer, anger).

For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.  
-2 Corinthians 7:10 (ESV)



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 6, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: James 4:6-10

## DISCOVERY DESTINATION • Maturity: Grow with Purpose

**Read Philippians 3:8-16.** From Paul's epistle to the Philippians, we learn what it means to grow with purpose. **Summarize below what verses 8-11 teach about the sacrifice required to walk with heavenly resolve. AWW.**

Living with purpose includes leaving behind our plans and passions. **Read the cross-references and match each with the correct statement.** Answers will be used more than once.

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <u>  a  </u> True disciples carry their cross and follow Christ.                | a. Luke 14:26-28, 33 |
| <u>  b  </u> He who hates his life in this world will keep it for life eternal. | b. John 12:24-26     |
| <u>  b  </u> Death is necessary for bearing much fruit.                         |                      |
| <u>  a  </u> True disciples have counted the cost.                              |                      |

Living with purpose also means looking ahead to the prize! **Reread Philippians 3:12-16 below. Underline the clause explaining why Paul presses on. Circle the verbal phrases describing his response to the past and to the future. Box *teleios* (translated as "mature").**

"Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me His own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead. I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. Only let us hold true to what we have attained" (ESV).

**Read the cross-references about remaining focused on the heavenly goal. Match each reference with the correct statement.**

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| <u>  b  </u> Those who look back are not fit for God's kingdom. | a. Proverbs 4:25-27      |
| <u>  c  </u> Those who win the prize do not run aimlessly.      | b. Luke 9:62             |
| <u>  d  </u> We must look at the eternal over the temporal.     | c. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 |
| <u>  a  </u> We must keep our eyes straight ahead.              | d. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 |

As our ultimate example of walking intentionally, Christ blazed the path for us. **Read His prayers in John 12:23, 27-28 and John 17:4, noting the reference to His death in the first passage.**

- For what purpose did Jesus come to that hour (John 12:23)? **AWV. To be glorified**
- How did He glorify His Father in John 17:4? **AWV. He accomplished the work His Father had given Him.**

Those who claim to follow Jesus ought to live as He did (1 John 2:6). Mature believers do not run aimlessly but thrive in their walk by pressing on toward Christ!

**Write your theme for Unit 6.**



# EXPLORE • UNIT 6, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: 1 Kings 18:36-39

## PEOPLE OF FAITH • Elijah—1 Kings 18:20-40

Read 1 Kings 18:20-40 and mark the keyword **choices/opinions**.

During the wicked King Ahab’s reign, Elijah was the Lord’s prophet. Israel was following Baal, the pagan storm god. In response to their sin, God appointed a terrible drought that He promised to end if Elijah would present himself to Ahab. When Elijah did so, he challenged the people who gathered to a test (1 Kings 17:1-18:19).

Fill in the blanks with the correct answers from 1 Kings 18:21.

Elijah’s question	AWV. How long will you waver between two different choices?
Elijah’s exhortation	AWV. If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.
The people’s answer	AWV. Not so much as a word

According to *Strong’s Dictionary*, the Hebrew word Elijah used for “choices/opinions” means “divided (in mind).” As James did for the *dipsychos* people in the study passage, Elijah called the idolatrous Israelites to repentance.

1. What was the ratio of Baal’s prophets to God’s prophets, according to Elijah? **450 to 1**
2. Who would be the true God? **AWV. The God who would answer by fire**
3. For how long did Baal’s prophets pray and prophesy (v. 29)? **AWV. Until the time for the evening sacrifice/oblation**
4. According to Isaiah 65:24, when does our God answer? **Before they call**

Did you notice Elijah’s bold posture as he went before and came near to the people? He was confident in his faith, for he had purposed to follow God.

On the altars below, fill in the blanks to complete each paraphrased prayer. Below each altar, write the result of the prayer.



**The Prophets’ Demise (v. 40): AWV. They were slaughtered at the Brook Kishon/Kishon Valley.**

**The People’s Decision (v. 39): AWV. The Lord, He is God; the Lord, He is God!**

The unstable, double-minded man described in James bears no resemblance to Elijah’s stalwart character! Elijah’s intention to follow God upheld him at a time when the feeble wavered. May we follow his example of fearless faith!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 6, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: James 4:6-10

Solve each word jumble below using the corresponding clue. Then unscramble the circled letters in those answers to solve question 13.

Jumble	Clue	Answer
1. OREWP	Paul wanted to know the ____ of Christ's resurrection (Phil. 3:8-16).	P O W E R
2. DYOSIPSCH	Greek word for "double-minded"	D I P S Y C H O S
3. TELEDXA	Those who humble themselves will be _____.	E X A L T E D
4. DOGO	We must not procrastinate doing this.	G O O D
5. EDHTA	_____ is necessary for bearing much fruit.	D E A T H
6. ZEAALOANI	Greek word for "arrogance/boastings/arrogant schemes"	A L A Z O N E I A
7. DGJEU	Othniel's vocation	J U D G E
8. MAYSSLILE	How those who win the prize do not run	A I M L E S S L Y
9. FDIMEWI	Shiphrah was this.	M I D W I F E
10. YPRFIU	What James says to do with our hearts	P U R I F Y
11. MYENE	A friend of the world is the ____ of God.	E N E M Y
12. MNEWO	Their primary work was caring for their families and homes.	W O M E N

13. Paul's statement of purpose

I p r e s s on t o w a r d t h e g o a l .

## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Recite your memory passage, James 4:6-10. How can you thrive in your walk this week? **To apply what you have learned in this unit, complete and initial one activity.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Ask a parent or mentor to share any areas of your character that need improvement.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Use a time tracker to log how you spend your time over the next week.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Using Scriptures, prayerfully write a purpose statement for your life.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 6, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: 1 Kings 18:36-39

Review this unit before answering the questions.

### True or False

- F   1. James says to ignore the devil and he will flee.
- T   2. During the reign of King Ahab, God's people worshiped Baal.
- F   3. The Greek word for "grace/favor" is *tapeinoō*.
- T   4. Repentance involves confessing and forsaking your sins.
- F   5. Hedonism promotes discipline as the end goal of life.

### Matching

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <u>  e  </u> 6. The world contains the pride of life.                    | a. Proverbs 28:13-14  |
| <u>  a  </u> 7. Those who confess and abandon their sin will find mercy. | b. Isaiah 65:24       |
| <u>  b  </u> 8. Before they call, I will answer.                         | c. Joel 2:12-13       |
| <u>  d  </u> 9. Godly grief produces repentance.                         | d. 2 Corinthians 7:10 |
| <u>  c  </u> 10. Rend your heart, not your garments.                     | e. 1 John 2:15-16     |

### Fill in the Blank

- 11. The Greek word for "sensual delight; by implication, desire" is   hedonē  .
- 12. During the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal, God's altar was surrounded by   water  .
- 13. "Repentance" means "sorrow or deep   contrition   for sin."
- 14. The desires of the   flesh   and   Spirit   are contrary to each other.
- 15. Acts 26:20 says to do works demonstrating your   repentance  .

## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

James 4:12 reminds us that God is supreme. He Himself poses the question in Isaiah 40:25, "To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him" (ESV)? The answer is, no one! He is unrivaled as lawgiver and judge, redeemer and savior. His matchless power and authority give meaning to our lowly lives, for He is the source and purpose of our existence. "For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen" (Rom. 11:36 ESV).

**Ponder:** As God's image bearer, are you submitting to His supremacy in your attitude and actions?

Write down some areas of your life that can be impacted by embracing God's supremacy.

**Recite:** Memory passage, 1 Kings 18:36-39





## UNIT 7

# Thrive in Worship

### DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Maturity: Grow in Patience and Prayer

### KEY VERSES

*Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. -James 5:7-8 (ESV)*

# LAUNCH • UNIT 7

## OVERVIEW

James began his epistle to the scattered Jewish believers by encouraging them to persevere in trials. Now, in the final portion of his letter, James circles back to this theme and reinforces it with a new charge: be patient and pray fervently. He reveals how authentic faith thrives in worship through praying, praising, and waiting.

- **PRAYER**

God Is Our Warrior—James 5:4  
Exodus 15:2-3; Deuteronomy 1:29-32; Psalm 18:1-3;  
Exodus 14:13-14

- **BACKGROUND STUDY**

History: Israel Becomes a Nation

- **TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES**

- **DISCOVERY DESTINATION**

Maturity: Grow in Patience and Prayer

- **PEOPLE OF FAITH**

Job—Job 42:1-17

## STUDY PASSAGE

James 5:1-20



## NAVIGATE MEMORY PASSAGE

James 5:7-11



## EXPLORE MEMORY PASSAGE

Job 42:10-17

## KEY VERSES

James 5:7-8



Key Verses



Keywords



Word Studies



Definitions



Themes



Geography



Before you begin your Discovery Journal lesson each day, pray using the verses provided. Then journal your prayers below using the acronym **PRAY**—**P**raise, **R**epent, **A**sk, **Y**ield.

	<h2>God Is Our Warrior</h2> <p>James 5:4</p>	
---	--	---

Prepare your heart for the study of Scripture by celebrating the power of our warrior God. He is mighty to save His people!

<b>Praise</b> —Read Exodus 15:2-3. Bring praise to the Lord—He is a man of war, our salvation!
•
•
•
<b>Repent</b> —Read Deuteronomy 1:29-32. Are you trusting God to fight your battles? Confess to Him any unbelief and fear in your heart.
•
•
•
<b>Ask</b> —Read Psalm 18:1-3. Boldly request the help of the One who can save you from all enemies!
•
•
•
<b>Yield</b> —Read Exodus 14:13-14. Is God prompting you to relinquish a battle to Him? Yield to Him and prepare to watch His deliverance on your behalf!
•
•
•



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 7, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: James 5:7-11

- 📖 Read the study passage, James 5:1-20, and mark the key verses, James 5:7-8, in your Bible.
- 🔑 Mark the keywords **rich/wealth**, **pay/wages/hire**, and **coming of the Lord/the Lord's coming**.
  1. Whom does James address in verses 1-6 (Hint: v. 1)? **You/ye rich people/rich/men**
  2. Whom does James address in verses 7-20 (Hint: v. 7)? **Brothers and sisters/brothers/brethren**
  3. What does James tell the believers to do in response to the rich men's oppression (v. 7)? **Be patient until/unto the coming of the Lord/the Lord's coming.**
  4. Who should pray, according to verse 13? **Anyone who is suffering/afflicted/in trouble**
  5. What should the cheerful and merry do? **Sing praises/praise/psalms/songs of praise.**

In this final section of his epistle, James returns to his opening theme of trials by encouraging the oppressed, scattered believers to persevere. He calls them to patience, prayer, and praise. Woven together, these themes create a tapestry of worship—the result of authentic faith that true believers thrive in.

### Complete the Braille cipher to discover the passage divisions of James 5:1-20.

James 5:1-6 The → O p p r e s s i o n  
by the Rich

James 5:7-12 The → P a t i e n c e of the Afflicted

James 5:13-20 The → P r a y e r s of the Righteous

What misery was coming upon the rich men, and why? James answers these questions by listing the consequences of their sin, then the sins themselves. **Using the word bank, complete the following summaries.**

Heaped up    Fraud    Fire    Wealth    Condemned    Fattened  
Corroded    Murdered    Self-indulgence    Evidence    Garments    Withheld

#### The rich men's misery:

Your wealth has rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded. Their rust will be evidence against you and eat your flesh like fire.

#### The rich men's misdoing:

You have heaped up treasure together in the last days. You have withheld the pay of your workers by fraud. You have lived on the earth in pleasure and self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts. You have condemned and murdered the righteous.

Godly people use their riches for good; these rich men used their wealth for the wrong purposes.

### Read Deuteronomy 24:14-15 to discover God's law to the Israelites concerning employers and employees who were destitute.

6. What kind of worker must not be exploited and oppressed? **Poor and needy**
7. When must his wages be given to him and why? **AWV. On the same day before sunset, because he is poor**
8. How would the worker react to his wages being withheld? **AWV. He would cry to the Lord.**



# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-17

As you read the study passage, notice key themes from James 1 resurfacing. James is rounding out his epistle by reinforcing his initial charge to endure trials well.

**Reread the study passage and mark the keywords **patient** and **endurance/steadfastness/patience/perseverance**.** Note the translation of the latter word is from *hypomonē* in James 5:11. **Review the word study for *hypomonē* in Explore Unit 1, Lesson 1.**

**patient (James 5:7)** Strong's #: **G3114** Greek word: **makrothymeō**

*Outline of Biblical Usage* Definition 1: **to be of a long spirit, not to lose heart**  
1.1: **to persevere patiently and bravely in enduring misfortunes and troubles**

1. What transition word connects the rich men's injustice with the believers' response (v. 7)? **Therefore/then**
2. What imperatives does James give in verses 7-12?
  - (v. 7) **AWV. Be patient until the Lord's coming.**
  - (v. 8) **AWV. You too be patient and stand firm, establishing your hearts.**
  - (v. 9) **AWV. Do not grudge against one another.**
  - (v. 10) **AWV. Take the prophets as an example of suffering and patience.**
  - (v. 12) **AWV. Do not swear but let your "yes" be "yes" and your "no", "no".**
3. Why must the believers be patient, according to verse 8? **AWV. The Lord's coming is near.**
4. Why must the believers not complain against each other? **AWV. So they will not be judged**
5. What do we consider those who have endurance (v. 11)? **Blessed/happy**
6. What have we seen? **AWV. The outcome the Lord brought about**

**Read James 1:3-4, 12 to see reoccurring themes here in James 5.**

7. What produces endurance? **The testing/trying of your faith**
8. What purposeful outcome does the Lord bring about in our trials, in light of James 1:3-4? **AWV. Endurance, maturity, and being complete**
9. How is the man who endures under trial described? **Blessed**

**Using the study passage verses and cross-references, complete the table below.**

Verse	Example of Patience	What We Learn
7	<b>Farmer/Husbandman</b>	He patiently <u>waits/waiteth</u> for the valuable crop, until the early and late <u>rains/rain</u> comes (James 5:7).
10	<b>The prophets</b>	Abraham <u>patiently</u> endured to receive what was promised to him (Heb. 6:13-15).
11	<b>Job</b>	He held fast to his <u>integrity</u> when Satan incited God against him to destroy him without cause (Job 2:3).

In the drought of suffering, waiting for rain is difficult. Yet by keeping their eyes on the Lord's imminent coming, the believers could persevere. Authentic faith waits patiently as an act of worship!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 7, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: James 5:7-11

## BACKGROUND STUDY • History: Israel Becomes a Nation

Our study in James opened with the tension of the twelve Israelite tribes dispersed throughout the Roman Empire. The Jewish believers were not only suffering as Christians, but also as a displaced people group who had longed to return home for centuries. Though their eternal hope was in Christ's second advent, these believers also patiently anticipated the fulfillment of God's promise to eventually gather their people into their own land.



Nearly two thousand years after God's assurance to reunite them, Israel proclaimed its independence on May 14, 1948. The United States acknowledged the authority of this new state on the same day of its proclamation, becoming the first nation to recognize Israel's independence. This milestone of freedom was cause for great joy for the Jews as well as Christians around the world, some of whom saw this day as a fulfillment of biblical prophecy.

Israel will continue to experience Gentile oppression until Christ's return, but its reestablishment as a nation still marks a significant point of fulfillment in God's promise to them. The complete restoration of the nation of Israel will come in the end times, after the second coming of Christ. God's chosen people still suffer and need our prayers. As Christians, we should pray for Israel, for both their physical protection and spiritual awakening to their Messiah. God promises blessing to those who love His people. Psalm 122:6-9 says, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek thy good" (KJV).

As modern believers, we look back on this account of God's faithfulness as a source of hope in our own trials. Israel's rebirth as a nation encourages us that God will defend and provide for us as well, as we patiently wait on Him. Our trials are only temporary and will soon turn to triumph! Just as the scattered tribes to whom James wrote, we look for Christ's return and wait for the outcome planned by our compassionate God. He is faithful!

The following references contain what some scholars believe are prophecies of Israel's rebirth as a nation. **Next to each prophecy, write the correct reference.**

Isaiah 66:8-10    Jeremiah 16:14-15    Ezekiel 36:24

Reference	Prophecy
Jeremiah 16:14-15	People would one day refer to the Lord as the One who had brought up the Israelites from the lands where He had driven them.
Isaiah 66:8-10	The nation of Israel would be born in one day.
Ezekiel 36:24	God promised to gather His people from the nations and bring them to their own land.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-17

🔑 Read the study passage and mark the keywords **pray** and **praises/praise/psalms/songs of praise**. Also mark all words associated with prayer.

🔍 **pray (James 5:13)** Strong's #: **G4336** Greek word: **proseuchomai**

Strong's Definition: **to pray to God, i.e. supplicate, worship**

In the last eight verses of James' epistle, *proseuchomai* is used four times! As the definition suggests, prayer is an act of worship—one that believers are encouraged to thrive in.

James continues his Spirit-inspired commands for how the suffering saints should live as they wait for the Lord's coming. **Notice the emphasis on prayer as you unscramble the letters to complete the imperatives found in James 5:13-20.**

- Let the afflicted person **yrap** pray.
- Let the cheerful person **ngsi** sing songs of praise.
- Let the sick person **lcal** call for the elders, and let them pray over and **onaint** anoint him with oil.
- Let the believers **fonecss** confess their sins and **rapy** pray for each other.

1. How must the elders anoint the sick with oil? **In the name of the Lord**
2. What three things will result from the prayer of faith (v. 15)? **AWV. The sick will be resotred, the Lord will raise him up, and any sin will be forgiven.**
3. What should the person who doubts expect to receive in James 1:6-7? **AWV. Nothing**
4. To whom and about whom is James speaking in verse 19? **AWV. Brothers and sisters, anyone among you who wanders from the truth**
5. Someone who turns a sinner from error saves his soul from what? **Death**

How should we pray? **To answer this question, reread the verses below. Underline each adjective and noun describing the prayer or the prayer warrior.**

And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. -James 5:15-16 (NKJV)

Just as James gives examples of patience, he also offers a role model for prayer.

**Use the cross-references to complete the summary of Elijah's prayer life.**

Elijah prophesied there would be neither dew nor rain for the next few years (1 Kings 17:1). After many days, God promised to send rain if Elijah would present himself to Ahab. Elijah told Ahab to gather the prophets of Baal and Asherah and meet him on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:1, 17-19). At the evening sacrifice, Elijah fervently prayed that it would be known the Lord was God in Israel, Elijah was His servant, and Elijah had done all these things at God's word. He asked God to answer/hear him (1 Kings 18:36-37). After this, Elijah went to the top of Mount Carmel and bowed himself with his face between his knees. He sent his servant to look toward the sea. When the servant saw nothing, Elijah sent him back seven times. At the first sign of a rain cloud, Elijah sent word for Ahab to prepare his chariot horses/chariot before the rain would stop him. Meanwhile, there came a heavy/great rain (1 Kings 18:41-45).



Interpret | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: James 5:7-11

**Read the study passage and mark the keyword *outcome/purpose/end/what the Lord finally brought about*.**

Knowing our compassionate, merciful God has a purpose in trials helps us thrive in patience and trust. **Read the cross-references to learn more about God's purpose in suffering and the outcome He intends. Match each reference to the correct statement.**

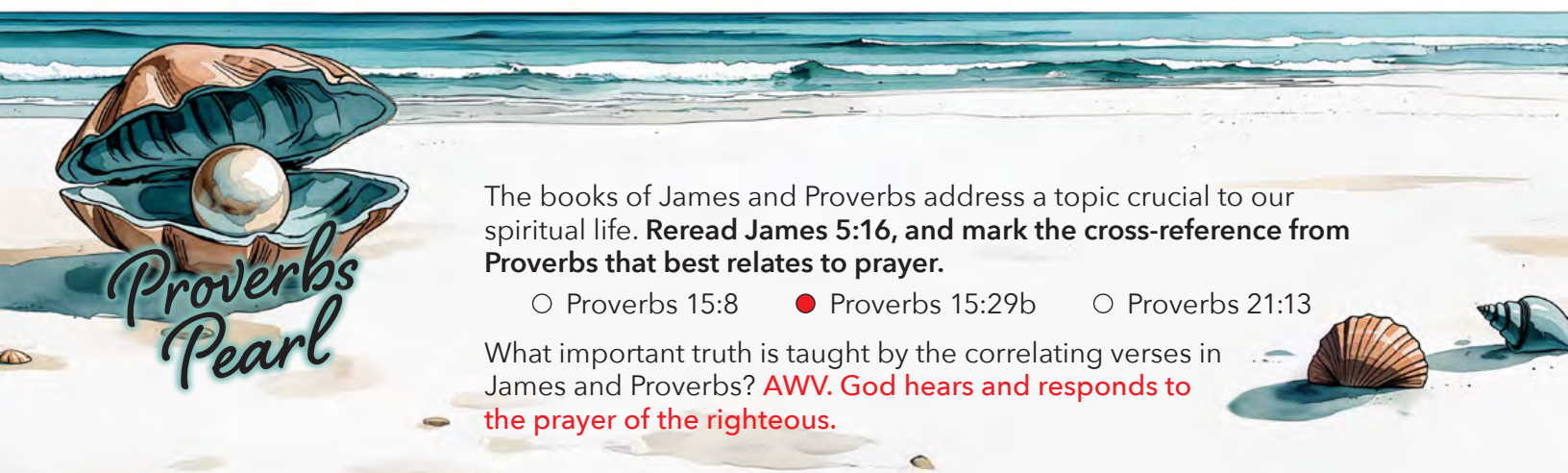
- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| <u>  d  </u> 1. God's chastening is for our good; it yields fruit.   | a. Romans 8:16-18        |
| <u>  c  </u> 2. If we endure, our confidence during suffering will be greatly rewarded.                              | b. Romans 8:22-23, 28-29 |
| <u>  a  </u> 3. We suffer with Christ to be glorified with Him.  | c. Hebrews 10:32, 35-37  |
| <u>  e  </u> 4. Trials come so that our tested faith can result in praise, honor, and glory when Christ is revealed. | d. Hebrews 12:10-11      |
| <u>  b  </u> 5. In suffering, God works all things for good for those called to be conformed to Christ.              | e. 1 Peter 1:6-7         |

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

Both James and Jesus addressed the topics of prayer, grumbling, and patience. **Use the references to complete Jesus' teachings. Match James' tenets with the teachings.**

James 5:8    James 5:9    James 5:16

Tenet of James	Teaching of Jesus
James 5:8	"But the one who <u>  endures  </u> to the end will be saved" (Matt. 10:22b ESV).
James 5:16	"Therefore I say to you, <u>  whatever  </u> things you ask when you pray, <u>  believe  </u> that you receive them, and you will have them" (Mark 11:24 NKJV).
James 5:9	"'Stop <u>  grumbling  </u> among yourselves,' Jesus answered" (John 6:43 NIV).



*Proverbs Pearl*

The books of James and Proverbs address a topic crucial to our spiritual life. **Reread James 5:16, and mark the cross-reference from Proverbs that best relates to prayer.**

- Proverbs 15:8   
 Proverbs 15:29b   
 Proverbs 21:13

What important truth is taught by the correlating verses in James and Proverbs? **AWV. God hears and responds to the prayer of the righteous.**



# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-17

- Reread the study passage and mark the keyword **the Lord of armies/hosts/Sabaoth/Lord Almighty**.

Through the darkness of the rich men's wickedness shines a word of hope—the Lord of Armies hears the cries of the oppressed. In James 5:4, two Greek words combine to produce the Greek version of a Hebrew name for God, “Lord of Armies.” This name depicts God as a military commander of the spiritual forces. Though the Hebrew equivalent appears nearly 250 times in the Old Testament, the Greek name is used only twice in the New Testament.

**Lord (James 5:4)** Strong's #: **G2962** Greek word: **kyrios**  
 Strong's Definition: **supreme in authority, i.e. (as noun) controller; by implication, Master (as a respectful title)**

**armies/hosts/Sabaoth/Almighty (James 5:4)** Strong's #: **G4519** Greek word: **sabaōth**  
 Outline of Biblical Usage Definition 1.1: **Lord of the armies of Israel, as those who are under the leadership and protection of Jehovah maintain his cause in war**

To gain insight into God's heavenly armies, read the verses below. Circle the quality they excel in and underline the two things the passage says they do.

Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure. -Psalm 103:20-21 (KJV)

To learn more about the Lord of Armies and His defense of the afflicted, read the cross-references and fill in the blanks.

- The Lord will arise and place the needy in safety (Ps. 12:5).
- The Lord performs/works/executeth/executes righteousness and judgment for all the oppressed (Ps. 103:6).
- The Lord of Armies will come down to wage war/fight/do battle for Mount Zion (Isa. 31:4-5).
- The Lord of Armies has/hath saved/delivered/rescues the poor and needy from the hand of evildoers (Jer. 20:11-13).
- The Lord of Armies will protect/defend/shield the prisoners of hope (Zech. 9:12, 15).

As New Testament believers, James' audience found their hope in the second coming of Christ. Revelation 19:11-16 paints a prophetic picture of the Lord of Armies' final rescue.

Read the verses and complete the summary below.

The One on the horse is called Faithful and True. He judges and wages war in righteousness/justice. The armies of heaven follow Him on white horses. He has a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and on His robe is the name "King of kings and Lord of lords."

As the scattered tribes were exhorted to do, may we wait patiently for the day our warrior will come to right every wrong and free every oppressed person!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 7, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: James 5:7-11

## DISCOVERY DESTINATION • Maturity: Grow in Patience and Prayer

Read Romans 8:22-28 and mark the keywords **waiting, perseverance/patience/patiently, and pray.**

Patience. Prayer. Purpose. This passage beautifully summarizes what we have learned in this unit. Remember that when we let perseverance finish its work, it produces maturity. Patient prayerfulness helps us wait for the outcome of our trials and demonstrates authentic faith.

1. What is the whole creation experiencing? **AWV. The pains of childbirth**
2. What are we waiting for (v. 23)? **AWV. Our adoption, the redemption of our bodies**
3. How were we saved? **In/in this/by hope**
4. What is not the definition of hope, according to verse 24? **AWV. Something we see**
5. If we truly hope for what we don't see, how will we wait for it? **AWV. With patience**
6. What does the Spirit help us in? **Our weakness/infirmities/weaknesses**
7. Why do we need His help (v. 26)? **AWV. We do not know what to pray for as we ought.**
8. How does the Spirit intercede for us, according to verse 26? **AWV. With wordless groanings**
9. How does the Spirit intercede for us, according to verse 27? **According to/in accordance with the will of God**
10. How have we been called? **According to His purpose**

Christ's parable of the oppressed widow and the unjust judge deepens our understanding of prayer and the patience it requires. **Read this parable in Luke 18:1-8, then circle the answer that makes each statement true.**

11. Jesus taught that men should pray (in difficult times, at all times).
12. In verse 1, the opposite of praying is (losing heart) doubting).
13. Jesus contrasted the judge who did not care about the widow with God who brings (happiness, justice) to His own.
14. Jesus said God will (eventually, quickly) bring justice to those who cry day and night to Him.
15. Jesus concluded His parable by mentioning (faith, perseverance).

As our standard of maturity, how did Jesus Himself demonstrate patience in prayer? **In Matthew 26:36-44, read about Christ's prayer the night of His arrest. Then complete the Thrive cipher to summarize His example.**

Jesus did not lose heart but  → p e r s e v e r e d by going to His Father three times.

Jesus  → t r u s t e d His Father by asking for His will.

Write your theme for Unit 7.

But for you, O Lord, do I wait; it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer. -Psalm 38:15 (ESV)



# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-17

## PEOPLE OF FAITH • Job—Job 42:1-17

The account of Job is one of thriving in worship amid suffering. Because of his tenacious faith, Job's fiery test turned into a flourishing testimony. **Wait to read the study passage from Job. First, learn its context by reading the references and numbering each statement in the correct order of events in Job's experience.**

- 2 Job responded to testing in worship (Job 1:20-21).
- 3 Job desired God to answer him and desired to give God an account of all his steps (Job 31:35-37).
- 1 God granted Satan permission to test Job (Job 1:8-9, 11-12).
- 4 God answered Job from the whirlwind; Job admitted his insignificance (Job 38:1-3; 40:1-8).

At the end of his trial, Job worshiped again. **Read Job 42:1-17. Unscramble the letters to discover what Job learned about God and himself.**

### Job's Statement about God:

I know that You can do all **nhtigs** things, and no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You (v. 2).

### Job's Statement about Himself:

I have uttered what I did not understand, things too **dlwenourf** wonderful for me to know. I have **dhear** heard of You by the ear, but now my eye **eses** sees You. Therefore I despise myself and **preten** repent in dust and ashes (vv. 3, 5-6).

1. Whom was God's anger kindled against (v. 7)? **AWV. Eliphaz and his two friends**
2. When did God restore Job's fortunes (v. 10)? **AWV. After he had prayed for his friends**
3. How much more did God give Job than what he previously had? **AWV. Double**
4. What was part of the outcome of the Lord in Job's trial, in verse 12a? **AWV. The Lord blessed Job's latter end more than his beginning.**

**Read Job 23:3, 8-11 to find out what Job's suffering felt like before witnessing the outcome of the Lord.**

5. What two truths did Job cling to when he could not see the Lord (v. 10)? **AWV. He knows the way that I take; when He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold.**
6. What did Job not turn aside or decline from? **God's way**

Job had heard of God; but eventually, he saw who God was. This revelation of God resulted in repentance.

7. In light of James 5:11, what attributes of God might Job have seen in this revelation? **AWV. Compassion and mercy**

How fitting that, in the final portion of James' epistle, he points to Job as an example of perseverance. In the heat of adversity, Job's faith shone like gold. He patiently endured to witness what the Lord brought about, just as James' suffering audience must do.

Like Job, may we thrive in worship during our waiting. May we continue in patience and prayer. May our faith flourish until we see the outcome of the Lord!





# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-17

Review this unit before answering the questions.

### True or False

- F   1. The study passage says to be prayerful until the Lord’s coming.
- F   2. The Lord commended Eliphaz and his two friends.
- T   3. The elders should anoint the sick with oil.
- F   4. Elijah told Ahab to prepare his house before the rain would stop him.
- F   5. God granted Satan permission to kill Job.

### Matching

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| <u>  b  </u> 6. The Lord executes righteousness for the oppressed.      | a. Job 1:20-21         |
| <u>  a  </u> 7. Job responded to testing in worship.                    | b. Psalm 103:6         |
| <u>  d  </u> 8. Abraham patiently endured to receive what was promised. | c. Zechariah 9:12, 15  |
| <u>  c  </u> 9. The Lord of Armies will protect the prisoners of hope.  | d. Hebrews 6:13-15     |
| <u>  e  </u> 10. The One on a white horse wages war.                    | e. Revelation 19:11-16 |

### Fill in the Blank

- 11. Someone who turns a sinner from error saves a soul from   death  .
- 12. The Greek word for “patient” is   makrothymeō  .
- 13. The Greek name for “Lord of Armies” is used only twice in the   New   Testament.
- 14. James’ readers had heard about the patience of   Job  .
- 15. The Lord   blessed   the latter days of Job more than his beginning.

## KNOW GOD’S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

James 5:11 reminds us that God is compassionate. He is tenderhearted toward mankind and pities His people like a father does his children (Ps. 103:13). Throughout the Old Testament, we witness the heartbeat of His lovingkindness. Then in the New Testament, we see Jesus incarnate this compassion by giving it hands and feet. Christ healed the sick, cared for the needy, and spoke life to hurting hearts, all as an outflow of the Father’s gracious heart.

**Ponder:** As God’s image bearer, are you reflecting His compassionate nature in your attitude and actions?

Write down some areas of your life that can be impacted by embracing God’s compassion.

**Recite:** Memory passage, Job 42:10-17





## UNIT 8

# Thrive Review

### DISCOVERY DESTINATION

Christian Maturity

### KEY VERSES

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. -James 1:2-4 (NIV)*

# LAUNCH • UNIT 8

Throughout the *Thrive* study, we have learned what it means to flourish in authentic faith—even amid the heat of life’s trials and temptations. We can rejoice in challenges, because the goal of testing is maturity. By fixing our eyes on Jesus Christ, the author and perfecter of our faith, we can grow as He intends.

## What do you believe about Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior?

Ask yourself, “Do I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who died on the cross for me? Is He my Lord and Savior?” If you do not believe and have not submitted, the *Greatest Discovery* section at the front of this study can lead you through Scripture to reveal man’s condition before God and God’s plan of salvation for you.

If you are a believer in Christ, are you rehearsing the gospel of faith to yourself and proclaiming the good news to the world? **Take this opportunity to write out a confession of faith from the *Thrive Discovery Journal*.**

Your confession of faith may be a truth from the *Thrive* study passage or any section of the *Discovery Journal: Background Study, Teachings of Jesus in James, Discovery Destination, or People of Faith*. This confession can be a daily reminder of your faith in Jesus Christ and what you believe about the sovereign God when you witness to your neighbors, your country, and the world.

**Note:** On the next page, we have included several statements of faith as writing prompts.



*Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

*—James 1:2-4*  
(ESV)



Key Verses



Keywords



Word Studies



Definitions



Themes



Geography





# PRAYER • UNIT 8

In Units 1-7 our focus was on truths about God from the study passage. We learned that God is light; He is our father; the Lord is glorious; He is one God; and He is our creator, Lawgiver, and warrior. Each day of Bible study, we prayed Scripture confirming these truths that deepen our understanding of God's character.

What are your favorite verses used in the prayers of the *Thrive* study? Use these verses in your prayer time for this review unit. Our God hears when we call, and He honors the request made in unwavering faith! Journal your prayers below.

<b>Praise</b>
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•
•
<b>Repent</b>
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•
•
<b>Ask</b>
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•
•
<b>Yield</b>
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•
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# NAVIGATE • UNIT 8, LESSON 1

## Navigate Review | Unit 1, Thrive in Tests

Throughout our study in the epistle of James, we are challenged to become spiritually mature. Under the Holy Spirit's inspiration, James warns us to beware of the lies of sinful desires and calls us to be hearers and doers of the Word. He urges us to thrive in an active faith, regardless of suffering or temptation. He reminds us of the heroes of the faith who endured trials, encouraging us to wait patiently for the Lord's return. James' instructions equip us as we develop into Christlikeness.

Congratulations on persevering and fulfilling the vision of the National Bible Bee, "to know God's Word and make Him known," by completing this *Thrive* study. Our goal in *Thrive* was to study the epistle of James so that we might flourish in our faith and grow in Christian maturity. **Read James 1:1-18, and have fun with the review.**

### True or False

- F   1. In Acts 8:1, persecution arose in Antioch.
- T   2. James calls God the Father of lights.
- T   3. James' epistle includes over fifty imperatives to help us grow in maturity.
- F   4. Matthew 19:21 teaches that wisdom is for those who are mature.

### Short Answer

- 5. In Psalm 137:1-4, where were the Jews in exile? **Babylon**
- 6. What will the person who endures trials receive? **The crown of life**
- 7. In what empire were the scattered tribes located? **Roman Empire**
- 8. What Greek word means "to solicit to sin, to tempt"? **peirazō**

### Fill in the Blank

- 9. This verse,   **Hebrews 5:14**  , teaches that discernment is a mark of maturity.
- 10. When we   **ask**   for wisdom, it will be given to us.
- 11. Mature love casts out   **fear**  .
- 12. James uses the Greek word   **peirasmos**   to describe an outward struggle with adversity.

### Teachings of Jesus in James

- 13. Unit 1
  - a. Where did Jesus say to lay up treasure? **Heaven**
  - b. What should we do when persecuted? **Rejoice and be glad**

### Discovery Destination

- 14. Unit 1: Maturity: Grow in Perseverance
  - a. What did Jesus endure? **The cross**
  - b. In Isaiah 50:5-7, what did Jesus set His face as? **Flint/a flint**
  - c. In Luke 9:51, where did Jesus resolutely go? **Jerusalem**



Recite your *Navigate* memory passage from Unit 1, James 1:2-5.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 8, LESSON 1

Explore Review | Unit 1, Thrive in Tests

## Quiz

1. First Peter 4:19 says to commit our souls to our faithful \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. God      b. Savior      **c. Creator**      d. Shepherd
2. What does sin give birth to?  
a. Desire      **b. Death**      c. Confusion      d. Anger
3. God never \_\_\_\_\_ His people.  
a. Admonishes      b. Disciplines      **c. Tempts**      d. Tests
4. How many times is the Greek word *teleios* used in the epistle of James?  
**a. 5 times**      b. 3 times      c. 2 times      d. 6 times
5. What did Sarah consider the One who had promised?  
**a. Faithful**      b. Holy      c. Righteous      d. Trustworthy
6. In which passage does God test His people to see if they love Him with all their heart?  
a. Exodus 16:4      **c. Deuteronomy 13:3**  
b. Deuteronomy 8:16      d. Deuteronomy 8:2
7. The Greek word *aparchē* is used of people \_\_\_\_\_ to God.  
**a. Consecrated**      b. Yielded      c. Obedient      d. Beloved
8. According to Proverbs 14:12, how does the way to death initially seem?  
a. Evil      **b. Right**      c. Good      d. Pleasant

## People of Faith

9. Hall of Faith—Hebrews 11:1-22
  - a. **Joseph** mentioned the exodus of the children of Israel.
  - b. **Jacob** worshiped as he died.
  - c. When the set time had fully come, God sent His Son to **redeem** those under the law.



Recite your *Explore* memory passage from Unit 1, Hebrews 11:13-16.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 8, LESSON 2

Navigate Review | Unit 2 & Unit 3, Thrive in the Word and Thrive in Relationships

Read James 1:19-2:13.

## True or False

- F   1. In Job 34:17-19, God judges by social status.
- T   2. The original recipients of James' epistle lived in an oral culture.
- F   3. The two men in the church service were judged by their height.
- F   4. The future aspect of salvation specifically refers to salvation from sin's power.
- T   5. Early church services concluded with a blessing pronounced by the leader.

## Short Answer

- 6. What village was James from? **Nazareth**
- 7. What does James call the command to love your neighbor as yourself? **The royal law**
- 8. The churches in what locations helped the poor in Jerusalem with an offering?  
**Macedonia and Achaia**
- 9. In John 1:14, what is the Word full of? **Grace and truth**

## Fill in the Blank

- 10. James contrasts man's anger with God's   **righteousness**  .
- 11. Taking Communion proclaims the Lord's   **death**  .
- 12. According to Luke 8:11, God's Word is a   **seed**  .
- 13. In Acts 10:34-35, God does not judge by   **nationality**  .

## Teachings of Jesus in James

- 14. Unit 2
  - a. What passage in James corresponds with Matthew 5:21-22a? **James 1:19-20**
  - b. What did Jesus say the wise man built his house upon? **The rock**
- 15. Unit 3
  - a. What two issues does James address in James 2:11? **AWV. Adultery and murder**
  - b. In what passage did Jesus state the royal law? **Mark 12:31a**

## Discovery Destination

- 16. Unit 2: Maturity: Grow as Hearers and Doers
  - a. What passage corresponds with the fruit of the Spirit—joy? **John 15:11**
  - b. To what object does Psalm 1:1-3 compare the hearer and doer of the Word? **A tree**
- 17. Unit 3: Maturity: Grow in Love
  - a. What did Jesus say to do for our persecutors? **Pray**
  - b. First Corinthians 13 says that love never what? **Fails/ends/faitheth**



Recite your *Navigate* memory passages from Units 2 & 3, James 1:21-22 and James 2:8-10.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 8, LESSON 2

Explore Review | Unit 2 & Unit 3, Thrive in the Word and Thrive in Relationships

## Quiz

- Which passage teaches that God's Word endures forever?  
a. 1 Peter 1:24-25    b. John 8:31-32    c. 1 John 2:24    d. None of these
- According to Mark 7:8-13, by what did the Pharisees nullify God's Word?  
a. Their unbelief    b. Their tradition    c. Their pride    d. Their hypocrisy
- To whom did Christ show mercy in Luke 18:35-42?  
a. Little children    b. Tax collectors and sinners    c. A blind man    d. Zacchaeus
- Who received the Word with all eagerness?  
a. Thessalonians    b. Bereans    c. Disciples    d. None of these
- In Romans 3:19-20, the law brings the knowledge of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Judgment    b. Righteousness    c. Truth    d. Sin
- According to 2 Timothy 3:14-17, God's Word can make us wise for \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Salvation    b. Righteousness    c. Good works    d. Humility
- Whose thumbs and big toes were cut off, as he had done to others?  
a. Goliath    b. Adoni-bezek    c. Agag    d. Jacob
- Which passage teaches that the commandment is not far from us?  
a. 1 John 2:24    b. Acts 8:4-6    c. Deuteronomy 30:9-14    d. Psalm 119:14-16
- In how many points of the law must someone fail to become guilty of breaking it all?  
a. Every point    b. Ten    c. One    d. Two
- Which Greek word means "to observe fully"?  
a. *katanoeō*    b. *paramenō*    c. *emphytos*    d. *parakypō*

## People of Faith

- Unit 2: Moses—Hebrews 11:23-29
  - What did Moses value more than Egypt's treasures? **The reproach of Christ/disgrace for the sake of Christ**
  - In Exodus 4:1-20, what is the first command God gave Moses? **AWV. Throw your staff on the ground.**
- Unit 3: Gideon—Judges 6:11-35
  - Gideon was called to deliver Israel from what group of people? **The Midianites**
  - What did Gideon name the first altar he built? **The Lord Is Peace/Jehovahshalom**



Recite your *Explore* memory passages from Units 2 & 3, Hebrews 11:24-26 and Judges 6:11-16.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 8, LESSON 3

Navigate Review | Unit 4 & Unit 5, Thrive in Our Works and Thrive in Our Words

Read James 2:14-3:18.

## True or False

- T   1. The Roman Road made spreading the gospel easy.
- T   2. Someone who does not stumble in words can direct his whole body.
- F   3. First Timothy 6:18 talks about being generous in good works.
- F   4. The Greek word *pistis* is used thirteen times in James' epistle.
- T   5. Hiram/Huram was skilled in metalwork.
- T   6. The Greek word for "tongue" is *glōssa*.

## Short Answer

- 7. The prayer in Deuteronomy 6:4-9 is called what? **The Shema**
- 8. What positive examples of faith and works does James provide? **Abraham, Rahab**
- 9. What is someone who says they love God yet hates a brother or sister? **A liar**
- 10. In the Roman Empire, what was society separated by? **Class**

## Fill in the Blank

- 11. First Timothy 2:9-10 speaks about   women   being adorned with good works.
- 12. We should speak the truth in   love  .
- 13. Ephesians 2:10 says we were created for   good     works  .
- 14. Solomon was skilled in the field of   biology  .

## Teachings of Jesus in James

- 15. Unit 4
  - a. What does Jesus call the believer? **Friend**
  - b. Which verse says that a friend loves at all times? **Proverbs 17:17**
- 16. Unit 5
  - a. Who did Jesus say would be called the children of God? **The peacemakers**
  - b. What will the merciful receive? **Mercy**

## Discovery Destination

- 17. Unit 4: Maturity: Grow in Obedience
  - a. What Greek word means "to heed or conform to a command or authority"? **hypakouō**
  - b. What is obedience better than? **Sacrifice**
- 18. Unit 5: Maturity: Grow in Wisdom
  - a. Nearly what fraction of Scriptural references to "wisdom" are found in Proverbs? **One-fourth**
  - b. What is held in wisdom's left hand? **Riches and honor**



Recite your *Navigate* memory passages from Units 4 & 5, James 2:14-18 and James 3:7-13.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 8, LESSON 3

Explore Review | Unit 4 & Unit 5, Thrive in Our Works and Thrive in Our Words

## Quiz

1. The doubting man being compared to a wave of the sea is an example of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. A simile      b. Personification      c. A metaphor      d. An analogy
2. What are people compared to in Matthew 12:33-37?  
a. Mist      b. Waves      c. Ships      d. Trees
3. When speaking of heavenly wisdom, what is the first description James lists?  
a. Impartial      b. Pure      c. Willing to yield      d. Peaceable
4. In Genesis 15, to what did God compare Abraham's descendants?  
a. Stars      b. Gold      c. Dust      d. Sand
5. "Justified/considered righteous" can either refer to the act or \_\_\_\_\_ of salvation.  
a. Study      b. Purpose      c. Evidence      d. None of these
6. Which is NOT used as a tongue analogy in the epistle of James?  
a. Grass      b. A bit      c. A fire      d. A rudder or helm
7. According to James' epistle, who had the believers dishonored?  
a. The unsaved      b. The poor      c. The Romans      d. Children
8. The Greek word *anastrophē* refers to what?  
a. Conduct      b. Worldview      c. Speech      d. None of these
9. Matthew 25:31-46 calls people who care for the hungry \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Merciful      b. Righteous      c. Compassionate      d. Holy
10. Which example in James 2:23-24 was justified by works and not by faith alone?  
a. Rahab      b. Negligent Person      c. Abraham      d. Demons

## People of Faith

11. Unit 4: Rahab—Joshua 2:1-21
  - a. Where was Rahab told to stay during the attack on Jericho? **AWV. In her house**
  - b. Whom did Rahab marry? **Salma/Salmon**
12. Unit 5: Abigail—1 Samuel 25:1-35
  - a. Where did Nabal shear sheep? **In Carmel**
  - b. What request did Abigail make at the end of her talk with David? **AWV. Remember your servant.**



Recite your *Explore* memory passages from Units 4 & 5, Joshua 2:8-11 and 1 Samuel 25:32-33.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 8, LESSON 4

Navigate Review | Unit 6 & Unit 7, Thrive in Our Walk and Thrive in Worship

Read James 4:1-5:20.

## True or False

- F   1. Othniel worked as a priest.
- T   2. God instructed the Israelites to give their destitute employees wages on the same day.
- T   3. According to 2 Corinthians 4:17-18, we must look at the eternal.
- F   4. Hebrews 12:10-11 says that we suffer with Christ to be glorified with Him.
- F   5. Israel proclaimed its independence on May 28, 1948.
- T   6. The Greek word *dipsychos* means "two-spirited."

## Short Answer

- 7. What should we do for the peace of Jerusalem? **AWV. Pray for it.**
- 8. What was the name for the political council in Israel? **Sanhedrin**
- 9. What Greek word is described as an "empty presumption"? **alazoneia**
- 10. Which of the rich men's belongings had corroded? **Their gold and silver**

## Fill in the Blank

- 11. James told the believers to be   patient   until the Lord's coming.
- 12.   Shiphrah   and   Puah   were midwives.
- 13. The rich men laid up treasure in the   last   days.
- 14. The reference that says to walk wisely toward outsiders is   Colossians 4:5  .

## Teachings of Jesus in James

- 15. Unit 6
  - a. Who did Jesus say would see God? **The pure in heart**
  - b. Proverbs 27:1 says to not boast about what? **Tomorrow**
- 16. Unit 7
  - a. According to Proverbs 15:29b, the Lord hears the prayer of whom? **The righteous**
  - b. According to Matthew 10:22b, the one who endures to the end will be what? **Saved**

## Discovery Destination

- 17. Unit 6: Maturity: Grow with Purpose
  - a. What passage reminds us that those who win do not run aimlessly? **1 Corinthians 9:24-27**
  - b. According to Luke 14:26-28, 33, what do true disciples carry? **Their cross**
- 18. Unit 7: Maturity: Grow in Patience and Prayer
  - a. How many times did Jesus pray in Matthew 26:36-44? **Three**
  - b. Who intercedes for us? **The Spirit**



Recite your *Navigate* memory passages from Units 6 & 7, James 4:6-10 and James 5:7-11.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 8, LESSON 4

Explore Review | Unit 6 & Unit 7, Thrive in Our Walk and Thrive in Worship

## Quiz

1. What philosophy promotes pleasure as the end goal of life?  
a. Humanism    **b. Hedonism**    c. Atheism    d. Mysticism
2. What example(s) of patience does James give in James 5?  
a. The prophets    b. The farmer    c. Job    **d. All of these**
3. According to James, what does God give to the humble?  
**a. Grace**    b. Mercy    c. Hope    d. Righteousness
4. In Jeremiah 20:11-13, whom does God rescue from the hand of evildoers?  
a. The outcast    b. The prisoner    c. The sick    **d. The poor and needy**
5. According to James' epistle, we must \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts.  
a. Humble    b. Strengthen    c. Cleanse    **d. Purify**
6. What action indicated Judas' false repentance?  
a. He lied.    **c. He hanged himself.**  
b. He negotiated for more money.    d. He wept bitterly.
7. The Hebrew name for "Lord of Armies" is used nearly \_\_\_\_\_ times in the Old Testament.  
**a. 250**    b. 175    c. 300    d. 150
8. Who should anoint the sick with oil?  
a. Missionaries    b. Deacons    **c. Elders**    d. Parents
9. What Greek word means "to humiliate"?  
**a. tapeinoō**    b. *alazoneia*    c. *hēdonē*    d. *charis*
10. In Joel 2:12-13, God urges His people to return to Him with all their what?  
a. Soul    b. Mind    c. Actions    **d. Heart**

## People of Faith

11. Unit 6: Elijah—1 Kings 18:20-40
  - a. Elijah was a prophet during the reign of which king? **Ahab**
  - b. Where were the prophets of Baal slaughtered? **At the Brook Kishon/Kishon Valley**
12. Unit 7: Job—Job 42:1-17
  - a. Whom did God grant permission to test Job? **Satan**
  - b. Before God restored his fortunes, what did Job do for his friends? **AWV. He prayed for them.**



Recite your *Explore* memory passages from Units 6 & 7, 1 Kings 18:36-39 and Job 42:10-17.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 8, LESSON 5

Navigate Review | Word Studies and Definitions

## NAVIGATE WORD STUDIES REVIEW

Match the following English words with their Greek or Hebrew transliterations.

### English Words

- g 1. trials/temptations
- a 2. tempted
- k 3. perfecter/finisher
- c 4. personal favoritism/partiality/respect of persons/favoritism
- e 5. faith
- j 6. works/deeds
- i 7. obeyed
- h 8. work/works/worketh
- b 9. tongue
- f 10. double-minded
- d 11. arrogance/boastings/arrogant schemes

### Transliterations

- a. *peirazō*
- b. *glōssa*
- c. *prosōpolēmpsia*
- d. *alazoneia*
- e. *pistis*
- f. *dipsychos*
- g. *peirasmos*
- h. *energeō*
- i. *hypakouō*
- j. *ergon*
- k. *teleiōtēs*

## NAVIGATE DEFINITIONS REVIEW

Define these terms from the *Thrive* study.

1. Double-minded: **vacillating (in opinion or purpose)**
2. Dispersion: **(Gr. "a scattering") Term for Jews living outside Palestine after the Babylonian exile (586 B.C.) and at other times.**
3. Theme: **a subject or topic of discourse**
4. Anger/wrath: **the strongest of all passions....suggests a more settled or abiding condition of mind, frequently with a view to taking revenge**
5. Receive/accept: **to receive favourably, give ear to, embrace, make one's own, approve, not to reject**
6. Sanctification: **The process or result of God's continuing work in Christian believers through the power of the Holy Spirit.**



# EXPLORE • UNIT 8, LESSON 5

## Explore Review | Word Studies and Definitions

### EXPLORE WORD STUDIES REVIEW

Match the following English words with their Greek or Hebrew transliterations.

#### English Words

- t   1. endurance/steadfastness/patience/perseverance
- n   2. perfect/mature
- j   3. carried/lured/drawn/dragged away
- w   4. firstfruits
- k   5. test/prove
- a   6. gained approval/received their commendation/  
obtained a good report/testimony/were commended
- u   7. humility/meekness/humbly
- q   8. implanted/engrafted/planted
- l   9. looks/beholding/observing
- b   10. has looked/looks/looketh
- o   11. has continued/perseveres/continueth/continues
- c   12. love
- v   13. guilty
- d   14. mercy
- f   15. justified/considered righteous
- r   16. behavior/conduct/conversation/life
- e   17. wisdom
- s   18. pleasures/passions/lusts/desires
- g   19. grace/favor
- h   20. humble
- p   21. patient
- m   22. pray
- x   23. Lord
- i   24. armies/hosts/Sabaoth/Almighty

#### Transliterations

- a. *martyreō*
- b. *parakyp̄tō*
- c. *agap̄aō*
- d. *eleos*
- e. *sophia*
- f. *dikaioō*
- g. *charis*
- h. *tapeinoō*
- i. *sabaōth*
- j. *exelkō*
- k. *nāsâ*
- l. *katanoeō*
- m. *proseuchomai*
- n. *teleios*
- o. *paramenō*
- p. *makrothymeō*
- q. *emphytos*
- r. *anastrophē*
- s. *hēdonē*
- t. *hypomonē*
- u. *prautēs*
- v. *enochos*
- w. *aparchē*
- x. *kyrios*

## EXPLORE DEFINITIONS REVIEW

Define these terms from the *Thrive* study.

1. Doer: **one that takes an active part**
2. Law: **the established name for "law" as decreed by a state and set up as the standard for the administration of justice**
3. Action: **literally, a driving; hence, the state of acting or moving; exertion of power or force**
4. Credited/counted/imputed/accounted: **a thing is reckoned as or to be something, i.e. as availing for or equivalent to something, as having the like force and weight**
5. Repentance: **Sorrow or deep contrition for sin, as an offense and dishonor to God... accompanied and followed by amendment of life. Repentance is a change of mind.**
6. Choices/opinions: **divided (in mind)**

## CIPHER KEYS

Thrive Cipher

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	

Growth Cipher

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	

Braille Cipher

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	

T9 Cipher

1	2 ABC	3 DEF
4 GHI	5 JKL	6 MNO
7 PQRS	8 TUV	9 WXYZ

## NOTES

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