

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 over a rocky shore and into the water. 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

JUNIOR ANSWER ANCHOR

# DISCOVERY JOURNAL

• JUNIOR ANSWER ANCHOR •



TO KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

National Bible Bee *Thrive* Discovery Journal Junior 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>).

Blue Letter Bible (<https://www.blueletterbible.org>).

Merriam-Webster Children's Dictionary. Springfield, MA: DK Publishing, 2019.

Fischer, Jean. *Kids' Bible Dictionary*. Uhrichsville, OH: Barbour Publishing, Inc, 2009.

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

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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 "observe" or understand what we're reading. We use these tools in the Discovery Journal:

- Keywords, word studies, definitions
- Observation 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 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 by reminding them to be joyful in their suffering. He tells them that through perseverance, the tests of their faith will result in spiritual maturity. James exhorts the believers to thrive in their trials and temptations.

- **PRAYER**

God Is Light—James 1:17  
Psalm 104:1-2; Psalm 90:8; Micah 7:7-8;  
Ephesians 5:8-11

- **BACKGROUND STUDY**

Geography: 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 1:2-4



## 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. God desires a relationship with His people, and prayer is the perfect way to communicate with God.

## 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 wraps 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. 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 7:7-8. 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 1:2-4

The epistle of James was directed to the scattered Jewish believers. Sometimes called the “Proverbs of the New Testament,” its generous use of adages distinguishes it from every other New Testament epistle.

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, 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 Growth cipher 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

**Match the connected idea in the right-hand column with the correct paraphrase.**

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <u>  b  </u> 1. Proper response to trials (v. 2)           | a. Dealing with trials |
| <u>  d  </u> 2. What to ask God for (v. 5)                 | b. Joy                 |
| <u>  a  </u> 3. What wisdom might be helpful for (vv. 2-5) | c. Crown of life       |
| <u>  e  </u> 4. One who doubts and wavers (v. 8)           | d. Wisdom              |
| <u>  c  </u> 5. Reward for steadfastness in trials (v. 12) | e. Double-minded       |

- 🔑 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** and **perfect/mature**.

James 1:4 reveals both the purpose of our trials and the theme of James' letter. **Read this verse again, then complete the word studies to discover 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. James 1:3-4 shows how *teleios* can be achieved. **Fill in the blanks with the correct letters to reveal the progression.**

t e s t i n g + e n d u r a n c e = maturity

As we learned in *Navigate* Lesson 1, God's wisdom is the compass for navigating our tests of faith. The epistle of 1 Peter offers a wealth of wisdom to help us practice endurance in trials.

**Match each reference to a statement on the left. Then, unscramble the letters to learn what our response to each test should be.**

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <u>c</u> 1. When you are slandered and falsely accused, have a good <b>eeiccncsno</b> <b>conscience</b> . | a. 1 Peter 2:20-21 |
| <u>e</u> 2. When you are attacked by the devil, <b>ssrite</b> <b>resist</b> him.                          | b. 1 Peter 3:9     |
| <u>b</u> 3. When insulted or reviled, repay with a <b>seglsnbi</b> <b>blessing</b> .                      | c. 1 Peter 3:16    |
| <u>d</u> 4. If you suffer as a Christian, <b>fgyrlio</b> <b>glorify</b> God.                              | d. 1 Peter 4:16    |
| <u>a</u> 5. If you suffer for doing right, <b>tptyilean</b> <b>patiently</b> endure it.                   | e. 1 Peter 5:8-9   |

**Read 1 Peter 4:19 (NIV). Choose the correct answer to learn what we should do in suffering.**

"So then, those who suffer according to God's will should \_\_\_\_\_ to their faithful

- Commit themselves       Humble themselves       Pray

Creator and \_\_\_\_\_ do good."

- Remember to       Continue to       Patiently



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 1, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 1:2-4

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

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

⚖️ **Dispersion (i.e. diaspora)** According to *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*

Definition: (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 of their disobedience. These deported Israelites established settlements around the Great (Mediterranean) Sea, from the ancient Middle East, west to North Africa and Rome. Later, 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.

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 Ezekiel 36:24 (ESV). Fill in the blanks to complete the statement of God's promise to His people.**

I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land.

🔍 Read the references to discover locations of both Old and New Testament dispersions. Mark the locations listed in each reference in the manner it is marked in the Scripture bank.

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





# EXPLORE • UNIT 1, LESSON 2

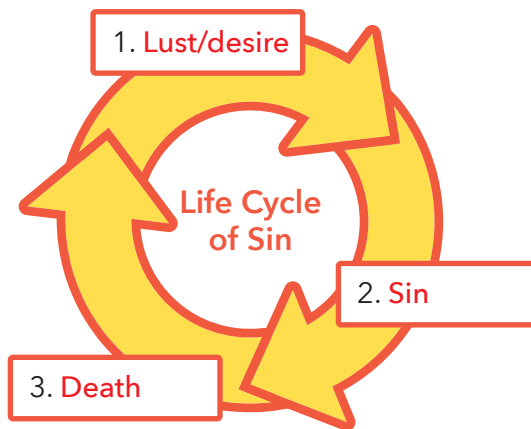
Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:13-16

Sometimes we are tested by the hardships that happen to us; other times we are tested by the temptation to sin that comes from within us. In this lesson, we will learn how to thrive in spite of temptation.

- 🔍 Read 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**.



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

Match the references in the right-hand column with the correct statement on the left.

### Statements

- c   Sin results in death.
- a   A prudent man sees evil and hides himself.
- b   A person is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

### References

- a. Proverbs 22:3
- b. James 1:14
- c. James 1:15

James 1:17-18 paints a hope-filled contrast to the destructive outcome of man’s sinful desires.

**Reread James 1:15-18 and then answer the questions.**

1. In contrast to sin’s consequences, God’s gifts from above are what? **Good and perfect**
2. In the exercise of God’s will, He brought us forth by what? **The Word of Truth**
3. God did this so we could be what? **AWV. A kind of firstfruits of His creatures**

🔍 **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 1:2-4

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.

Read the key verses, James 1:2-4. Review the word study for “perfect/mature” in *Explore Lesson 1*, then unscramble the letters to complete each statement and learn more about *teleios*.

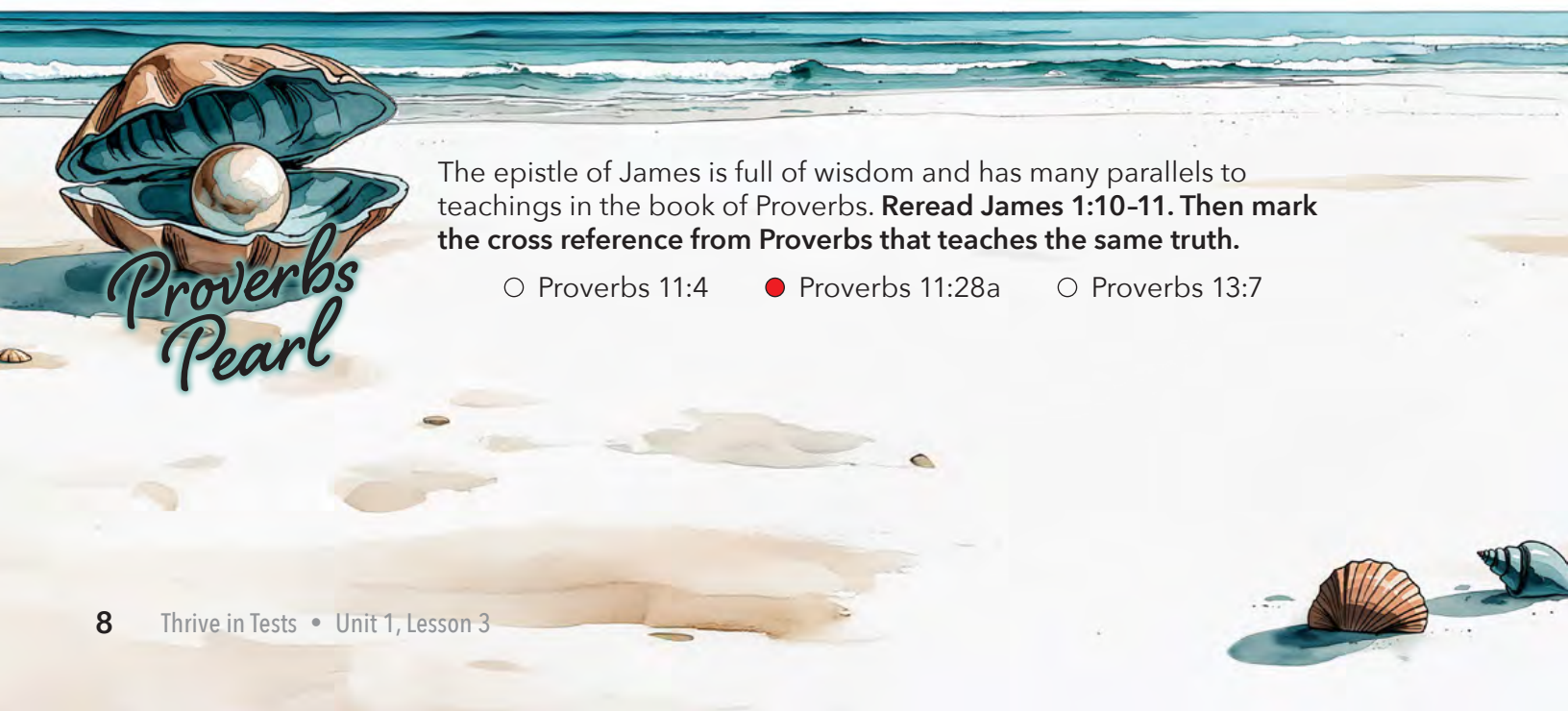
1. Maturity involves **facrisiec** sacrifice (Matt. 19:21).
2. **moWdsi** Wisdom is for those who are mature (1 Cor. 2:6).
3. Our **kitinghn** thinking should reflect maturity (1 Cor. 14:20).
4. Maturity involves **singserp** pressing toward the goal (Phil. 3:12-15).
5. Mature love does not contain **reaf** fear (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 reflect the teachings of Jesus in the gospels. Read the verses from the Scripture bank and match them to each “Teaching of Jesus.”

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 treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven” (Matt. 6:19-20a NKJV).
James 1:5	“Ask, and it will be given to you” (Matt. 7:7a NASB).
James 1:2	“When others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you...Rejoice and be glad” (Matt. 5:11-12 ESV).



*Proverbs  
Pearl*

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 teaches the same truth.

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



# 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.**



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."

**Write the letter of the cross-reference to *nāsâ* from the Scripture bank that matches the reason God gave for testing His people.**

- a. Exodus 16:4      b. Exodus 20:20      c. Deuteronomy 8:2
- d. Deuteronomy 8:16      e. Deuteronomy 13:3

Why the Test?	
<u>  e  </u> To know whether they love God with all their heart and soul	T <sub>1</sub>
<u>  b  </u> So God's fear will remain in them and they will not sin	E <sub>1</sub>
<u>  a  </u> To see if they will walk in God's instruction	S <sub>1</sub>
<u>  d  </u> To do them good in the end	T <sub>1</sub>
<u>  c  </u> To know what was in their heart and if they would keep His commandments	S <sub>1</sub>

God not only does not tempt believers, He also provides a way of escape in their temptation. **Read the cross-references and choose the word in parentheses that teaches us about our part in dealing with temptation and God's provision for us to overcome it.**

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

- (Keep) Purify your heart.
- Let your (head, eyes) look straight ahead.

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

- Let the one who thinks he (is wise, stands) take heed that he does not (give up, fall).
- Only temptations that are (unique, common) to mankind have overtaken you.
- God is (faithful, loving) to not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear.
- God will provide (a way of escape, strength), that you may bear the temptation.

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

- Jesus was (human, tempted), as we are.
- At the throne of grace, we find mercy and (help, grace) to help in time of need.

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 our hour of temptation!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 1, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 1:2-4

## 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 keyword **endured**.

Fill in the missing letters to complete the statements that summarize the passage.

We are to run with e n d u r a n c e the r a c e that is set before us. We look to J e s u s, who is the o r i g i n a t o r and p e r f e c t e r of our faith. He endured the c r o s s because of the j o y that was set before Him. C o n s i d e r Jesus, who endured such hostility so that you do not become w e a r y and discouraged.

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

### Statements about Jesus' perseverance in His suffering

- c   He knew the ruler of this world (Satan) had no power over Him.
- d   He learned obedience through suffering.
- b   He wanted His Father to be glorified.
- a   He surrendered to His Father's will.

### Cross-references

- a. Matthew 26:37-39
- b. John 12:27-28
- c. John 14:30
- d. Hebrews 5:7-9

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. **Read this sample theme for James 1:1-18.**

*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 4 of each unit will focus on an Old Testament individual who demonstrated resilient trust. In difficult trials, their faith thrived!

The following lesson features men and women named 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)**

Reread Hebrews 11:1-22. Match the verse from the Scripture bank to the correct person of faith.

# HALL OF FAITH

a. Hebrews 11:7  
d. Hebrews 11:20

b. Hebrews 11:8-10  
e. Hebrews 11:21

c. Hebrews 11:11  
f. Hebrews 11:22



Abraham  
    b    



Joseph  
    f    



Jacob  
    e    



Sarah  
    c    



Noah  
    a    



Isaac  
    d    

After reading the references, fill in the blanks.

- Although the people mentioned in Hebrews 11 did not receive the promises, they were still living by     **faith**     when they died (Heb 11:13).
- They did not receive the promise because the Lord had provided something     **better**     for us (Heb. 11:39-40).

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



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 1, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 1:1-18 | Memory Passage: James 1:2-4

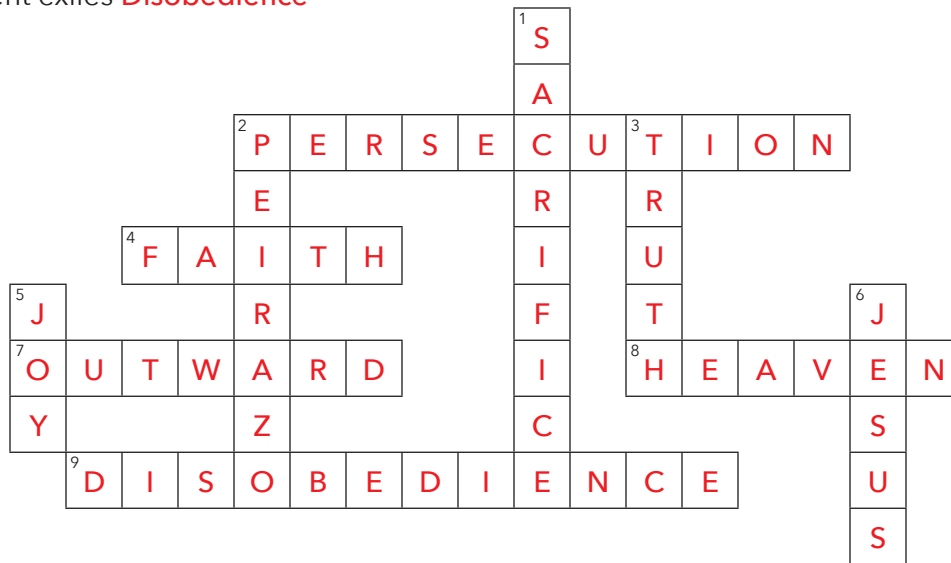
Complete the crossword puzzle to review this unit.

## ACROSS

- Reason Jewish believers scattered to Jewish settlements in the first century **Persecution**
- Although the people listed in Hebrews 11 did not receive the promise, they were living by **faith** when they died.
- The Greek word *peirasmos* refers to an **outward** struggle with adversity.
- Christians wait for Christ to gather them to **heaven**.
- Reason God sent the Israelites into different exiles **Disobedience**

## DOWN

- Maturity involves **sacrifice**.
- The Greek word for "tempted" in James 1:13a **peirazō**
- You will know the **truth**, and the **truth** will make you free. (same word)
- The proper response to trials **Joy**
- The originator and perfecter of our faith **Jesus**



## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

James says to let perseverance finish its work.

**Reflect:** Do I persevere in my trials to help me grow spiritually?

What can you do to shift your focus from a trial to moving toward maturity? Choose one activity to apply when you experience suffering and feel like giving up.

- Read the account of a great Christian to learn how they persevered and what the outcome was.
- Write an area of your life in which you have matured because you persevered in a trial.

**Recite:** Memory passage, James 1:2-4



# EXPLORE • UNIT 1, LESSON 5

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

Review the previous lessons in this unit before answering the questions below.

## True or False

- T   1. The proper response to attacks from the devil is to resist him.
- T   2. Those who suffer according to God's will should continue to do good.
- F   3. The life cycle of sin is desire, sin, and pleasure.
- F   4. In the exercise of God's will, He brought us forth by His Spirit.
- T   5. One reason God tested His people was to see if they would walk in His instruction.

## Fill in the Blank

- 6. Deuteronomy 13:3—God tests/proves His people to see if they love Him with all their heart and soul.
- 7. Proverbs 22:3—A prudent man foresees danger and takes refuge.
- 8. 1 Corinthians 10:13—Only temptations that are common to mankind have overtaken you.
- 9. James 1:17—God's gifts from above are good and perfect.
- 10. 1 Peter 3:9—Repay evil with a blessing.

## Choose the Words

- 11. (Keep, Purify) your heart (Prov. 4:23).
- 12. Sin results in (sadness, death).
- 13. God is (faithful, righteous) to not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear (1 Cor. 10:13).
- 14. Jesus was (tempted human), as we are (Heb. 4:15).
- 15. The Greek word *teleios* is translated (knowing/learning, perfect/mature).

### 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). What a generous God we serve!

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

Write down two ways that you could emulate God's generosity to others.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**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 Word implanted within them. 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  
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**—Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield.

	<h2>God Is Our Father</h2> <p>James 1:27</p>	
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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 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.
•
•
•
<b>Yield</b> —Read Romans 8:13-15. As God’s child, submit your life to be led by His Spirit!
•
•
•



# 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.

The original recipients of James' epistle lived in an oral culture. Few could read or physically access God's Word. Therefore, 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*.**

**= *anger/wrath* According to *Vine's Expository Dictionary***

Definition: the strongest of all passions....Suggests a more settled or abiding condition of mind, frequently with a view to taking revenge.

**Fill in the letters of the words to complete the statements that summarize our study passage.**

1. In verse 19, the physical actions of h e a r i n g and s p e a k i n g are discussed.
2. The contrasting words, q u i c k and s l o w, describe how a person is to hear and speak.
3. According to Proverbs 10:19, s i n is not lacking when many words are present.
4. E v e r y o n e must be slow to anger.
5. In verse 20, man's a n g e r is contrasted with God's r i g h t e o u s n e s s.

In James 1:18, James told his readers that they have been brought forth by the Word. In the verses following, he urges them to walk in their new nature.

**Choose the correct words in parentheses to complete each sentence.**

6. Two ways a person can deceive himself are by only (hearing, reading) the Word and by not bridling his (thoughts, tongue).
7. Pure and undefiled (religion, behavior) is visiting the (homeless and ill, orphans and widows) in their distress and keeping oneself unstained by (their friends, the world) (v. 27).

James tells his Christian audience to receive the implanted Word that can "save your souls."

**Read the references and use the Thrive cipher to discover the three aspects of salvation.**

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

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

**Future:** Salvation from sin's  → 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 accept** 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**.

Reread verse 21 and mark the correct answers.

- We are to lay aside \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Hatred and malice      All moral filth and evil      All lying
- We are to receive the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Love of God      Witness of the Spirit      Implanted Word
- We are to receive the implanted Word \_\_\_\_\_.  
 With meekness      In love      With eagerness

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 each reference and match it to the correct statement. Then underline the words that describe what each group of people did when they heard the Word of God.



### Statement

- d   The Thessalonians received it as the Word of God, not of men.
- a   The Samaritans paid attention to what Philip preached to them.
- b   The Gentiles glorified the Word.
- c   The Bereans received the Word with eagerness.

### Reference

- a. Acts 8:4-6
- b. Acts 13:44-48
- c. Acts 17:10-11
- d. 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2:13

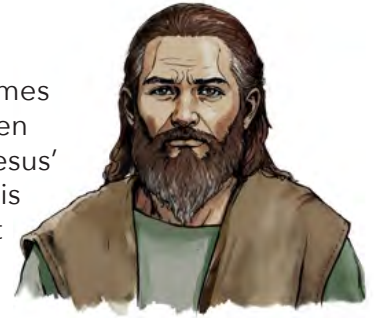


# NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 2

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, there are several men 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.

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.” 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. When a launderer hit him with a club used to beat clothes, James died, even as he prayed for his attackers' forgiveness.<sup>1</sup>

**Read the references and the statements, then mark them true or false (T/F). If the statement is false, underline the word which makes it incorrect and write the correct word on the line.**

- F   1. James was a pastor in the church in Jerusalem (Gal. 2:9).   Pillar
- T   2. Some believing Pharisees in Jerusalem wanted believing Gentiles to keep the law of Moses (Acts 15:3-5). \_\_\_\_\_
- F   3. James described himself as the brother of the Lord Jesus Christ (James 1:1).  
  Servant
- T   4. James' epistle is pastoral in nature. \_\_\_\_\_



# 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 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 apply the exhortation to become doers of Scripture.

- 🔍 looks/beholding/observing (James 1:23) Strong's #: **G2657** Greek word: **katanoeō**

Strong's Definition: **to observe fully**

In Bible times, mirrors were made of polished metal, and a person needed to view himself from multiple angles to see the best reflection. This process of observing fully can be compared to the word *katanoeō*, which illustrates that *katanoeō* is more than a passing glance.



- 🔍 has looked/looks/looketh (James 1:25)

Strong's #: **G3879** Greek word: **paraklyptō**

Strong's Definition: **to bend beside, i.e. lean over (so as to peer within)**

This word's idea of bending down reminds us of the call to accept the Word with humility.

The following statements help us understand being a doer of the Word. **After each statement, write the correct Greek word from the word studies that is reflected by the statement.**

Even if I do this to the Word, if I go away and forget what I learned, I am not changed.     **katanoeō**    

But if I do this to the law of liberty and actively continue in what I learned, I will be blessed.     **paraklyptō**    

**Read Deuteronomy 30:10-14. Then fill in the blanks of the paraphrase that tells us it is possible to be a doer of the Word.**

Obey the voice of the Lord your God, His commandments that are written in this     **Book**     of the Law. This commandment is not too difficult for you, nor is it     **far**     off. It is not in     **heaven**     or beyond the     **sea**    . But the word is very near you—in your     **heart**     and     **mouth**     so that you can do it.

- ⚖️ **doer** According to *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*

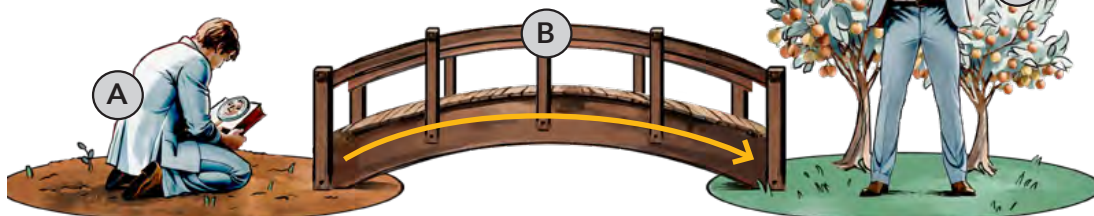
Definition: **one that takes an active part**

**Reread James 1:21, 25. Next to each statement, write the corresponding letter from the illustration.**

    **C**     This person will be blessed in what he does.

    **A**     This man humbly accepts the implanted Word.

    **B**     He continues in the perfect law of liberty.





# 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 uses many other word pictures for the Word of God. **Read each cross-reference and then unscramble the letters to see what the Word of God is compared to.**

- God’s Word is a **dsrow**       sword       (Eph. 6:17).
- God’s Word is a **mpla**       lamp       (Ps. 119:105).
- God’s Word is a **dese**       seed       (Luke 8:11).
- God’s Word is **kml**       milk       (1 Peter 2:2).
- God’s Word is like purified **lrvise**       silver       (Ps. 12:6).
- God’s Word is like **rife**       fire       and a **mehmra**       hammer       (Jer. 23:29).

According to the Bible, Jesus Christ is the living Word (John 1:1-2). **Read the scripture and write the three attributes that the living Word displayed to us.**

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. -John 1:14 (NKJV)

- a. Glory                      b. Grace                      c. Truth

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

In the study passage, the author addresses subjects of anger, our tongue (words), and how we respond to God’s Word. This letter provides practical instruction for our lives. **Read the verses from the Scripture bank and match them to the “Teaching of Jesus.”**

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 murder...’ But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment” (Matt. 5:21-22 ESV).
James 1:22	“Whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock” (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 scriptures...: and they are they which testify 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 15:25       Proverbs 14:21       Proverbs 19:17



# 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 its teachings and obey its commands. The following verses provide insight into how or why we continue in the Word. **Match the cross-references to the phrases.**

### Continue in the Word

- d   Because it endures forever
- f   So you will remain in the Son and in the Father
- a   By delighting in God's statutes and decrees
- e   So you can overcome the evil one
- c   Since it can make you wise to salvation through faith
- b   So the truth will set you free

### Reference

- a. Psalm 119:16
- b. John 8:31-32
- c. 2 Timothy 3:14-15
- d. 1 Peter 1:24-25
- e. 1 John 2:14
- f. 1 John 2:24

What hinders hearers from continuing as doers? **Read Mark 4:18-19 and use the Braille cipher to summarize the answer.**

1. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ → R e m o v a l of the Word by Satan
2. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ → U n r o o t e d in the Word
3. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ → W o r r i e s of this world
4. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ → D e c e i t of riches
5. ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ → D e s i r e s for other things

**Read the scripture and note the progression of receiving and continuing in the Word. Use words from the verse to answer the questions and reveal the progression.**

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)

6. How was the Word received? **With a good and virtuous heart**
7. How does the recipient continue in the Word? **Hold it firmly**
8. What is the result of continuing in the Word? **Produce fruit**



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 2, LESSON 4

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

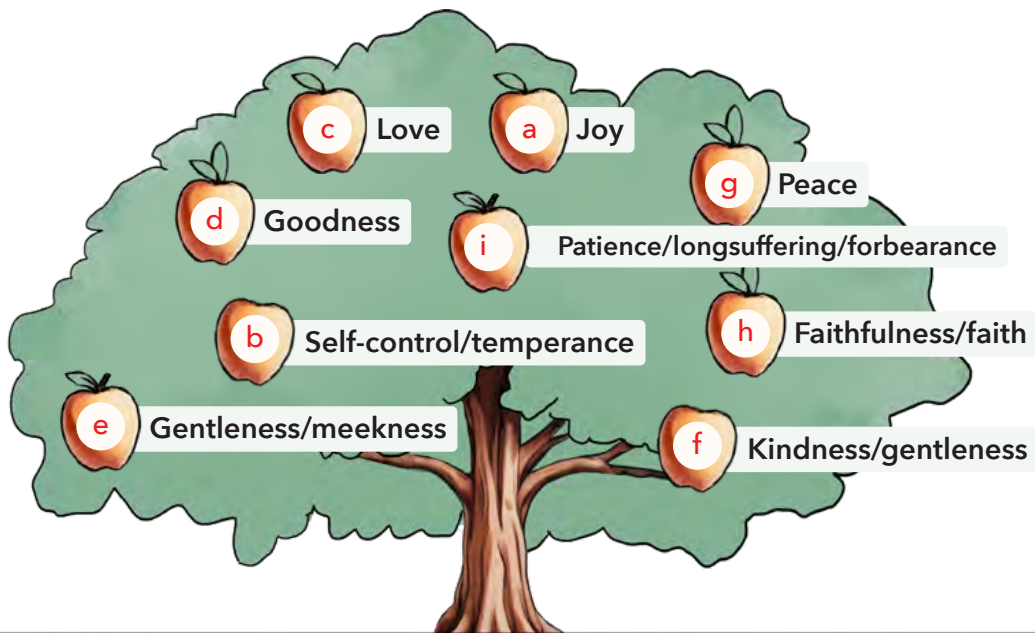
## DISCOVERY DESTINATION • Maturity: Grow as Hearers and Doers

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

Psalm 1:1-3 compares the hearer and doer of God's Word to a thriving tree. When we hear God's Word and then do what it says, we develop a healthy and fruitful spiritual life. The more we respond to God's Word, the more spiritual fruit we will produce.

Galatians 5:22-23 gives a list of spiritual fruit. Read the cross-references in the Scripture bank and match them to the fruit of the Spirit by writing the correct letters next to the tree's fruit.

- |                  |                   |                  |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 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.**

**Write the answers to the questions about our interaction with the Word of God.**

1. Where do we store the Word of God (Ps. 119:11)? **In our heart**
2. How are we to receive the Word of God (James 1:21)? **In humility/with meekness/humbly**
3. When should we meditate on the Word (Josh. 1:8)? **Day and night**





# 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 when he turned his back on the pleasures of sin in Egypt and chose to be with the people of God. **On the lines above the images, write the sequence of these events in Moses’ life. Under each image write the reference location from the Scripture bank.**

### Moses' Journey of Faith

Verse 23	Verses 24-26	Verse 27	Verse 28	Verse 29
4	2	1	3	5
<b>Kept the Passover</b>	<b>Chose God's People</b>	<b>Hidden</b>	<b>Left Egypt</b>	<b>Crossed the Red Sea</b>
Verse 28	Verses 24-26	Verse 23	Verse 27	Verse 29

Circle the correct answer in parentheses.

- The (wages, pleasures) of sin are temporary.
- Moses considered the (sufferings, reproach) of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt.
- By faith Moses saw Him who is (invisible, faithful).
- Both Moses and his parents were able to avoid (fear sin’s pleasures) (vv. 23, 27).



Even though Moses had imperfections, he was a hearer and doer of God’s commands. **Read Exodus 4:1-7 and answer the questions about God’s commands to Moses and Moses’ responses.**

- What two commands did God give to Moses regarding his staff? **AWV. Throw your staff on the ground, catch the serpent by the tail.**
- What two things did God tell Moses to do with his hand? **AWV. Put your hand inside your robe, put your hand inside your robe again.**

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

Review this unit before answering the questions or filling 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 share letters.

## CLUES

- Sin is not lacking when many words are present.
- One way a person can deceive himself is by being only a hearer of God's Word, but not a doer.
- Pure and undefiled religion includes keeping ourselves unspotted from the world.
- The book of James reflects his warm, pastoral nature.
- James and Jesus were from the village of Nazareth.
- As James was dying, he prayed for forgiveness for those who killed him.
- God's Word is like purified silver.
- Whoever hears the teachings of Jesus and does them is like a man who builds his house on the rock.
- Galatians 5:22-23 gives a list of spiritual fruit.
- We hide the Word in our heart.



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

Our response to God's Word determines our fruitfulness in Christ.

**Reflect:** Am I developing a healthy spiritual root system by humbly hearing the Word of God?

Select one of the following activities to help you thrive in the Word this week.

- Each day next week, pray through one of your memory passages.
- This Sunday, take notes on the sermon or Sunday school lesson.

**Recite:** Memory passage, James 1:21-22



# 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. We are to receive the implanted Word in humility.
- F   2. The Samaritans paid attention to the Word Peter preached to them.
- F   3. God healed Moses after he threw his staff on the ground and it became a serpent.
- T   4. Moses kept the Passover with the people of Israel in Egypt.
- F   5. Hearers of the law are justified before God.

### Matching

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| <u>  c  </u> 6. Receive the Word with a good and virtuous heart.          | a. Deuteronomy 30:9-10 |
| <u>  e  </u> 7. We are to lay aside all moral filth and evil.             | b. Psalm 119:16        |
| <u>  d  </u> 8. The pleasures of sin are temporary.                       | c. Luke 8:15           |
| <u>  a  </u> 9. God’s commands were written in the book of the Law.       | d. Hebrews 11:25       |
| <u>  b  </u> 10. We continue in God’s Word by delighting in His statutes. | e. James 1:21          |

### Choose the Word

- 11. The Greek word for “humbly” in James 1:21 is (prautēs paraklyptō).
- 12. The person who humbly receives the implanted Word and perseveres in it will be (strengthened, blessed) in what he does.
- 13. One of the hindrances to continuing as a doer of the Word is (working, desires) for other things.
- 14. Moses led the people of Israel across the (Red Sea Jordan River).
- 15. The word is very near—in our (head, heart) so we can do it.

## KNOW GOD’S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Because God is righteous (James 1:20), He perfectly reflects the standard of His Law. Psalm 36:6 compares God’s righteousness to the mountains that are stable and enduring.

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

Ask God to help you exhibit stable and enduring righteousness to others.

Think of an area where the world tempts you to change your idea of what is right. Ask God to help you remain true to His righteous standard.

**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 transgressor. -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. In contrast 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 6:11-14

## KEY VERSES

James 2:8-9



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.

## The Lord Is Glorious James 2:1

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 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 are told 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.**

**🔗 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

**Fill in the blanks in the statements to learn what truths our study passage and the references teach.**

1. The outward differences of the two men in the church service that were being judged were their jewelry and clothes/clothing.
2. God has chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith.
3. James said that his readers had dishonored/despised the poor (v. 6).  
taunts/insults/reproacheth
4. Someone who mocks the poor, reproaches/shows contempt for their Maker (Prov. 17:5).
5. The rich and the poor have in common that the Lord is the Maker of them all (Prov. 22:2).
6. "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" is the royal law.
7. We do well if we fulfill/keep the royal law.



**Complete the T9 cipher to discover the divisions of James 2:1-13, dealing with partiality.**

vv.1-7    The Corruption of Partiality: **34786489** ➔ D i s u n i t y

vv. 8-9    The Cure for Partiality: **5683** ➔ L o v e

vv. 10-13    The Consequences of Partiality: **58346368** ➔ J u d g m e n t



# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-14

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

Answer the questions from the key verses.

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)

- What is the transition word that connects the two contrasting statements? **But**
- What are the two contrasting words describing how people treat others? **Love, partiality**

These words to James' readers are as relevant to today's believers as they were then.

Read Leviticus 19:15, 18, then fill in the blanks that answer questions about the verses.

- We must judge your neighbor in righteousness.
- In this passage, "I am the Lord" follows the statement of the royal law.

**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—a commitment to love regardless of whether or not a person seems lovable.

Read the following references that describe behaviors of love that contrast with the characteristics of partiality listed in James 2. Then unscramble the letters to learn what those contrasts are.

Characteristic of Partiality		Behavior of Love
Judges by outward appearance (v. 3)		Looks at the <b>thrae</b> <u>heart</u> (1 Sam. 16:7)
Dishonors the poor (v. 6)		Ministers to the <b>opor</b> <u>poor</u> (Luke 14:12-14)
Is sinful (v. 9)		Is from <b>oGd</b> <u>God</u> (1 John 4:7)
Makes a person a transgressor (v. 9)		Keeps a person from <b>bltumgsni</b> <u>stumbling</u> (1 John 2:10)
Is judged by the law (v. 9)		<b>lulFisfl</b> <u>Fulfills</u> the law (Rom. 13:10)

Read Deuteronomy 7:7-8. Thank God that He does not choose 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. They continued to meet in synagogues and the temple and 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 gathering places. 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 their 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 doctrine (teaching), 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 also 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 during 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, they 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 and 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.

1. (Jews, Gentiles) were the first believers (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).
3. The churches in Macedonia and Achaia helped the (leaders, poor) in Jerusalem with an offering (Rom. 15:26).
4. Early church services included (doctrine, foot washing) (1 Cor. 14:26 KJV).



# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-14

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

Read the study passage and mark the keywords **law** and **guilty**.

**law (James 2:8)** According to *Vine's Expository Dictionary*

Definition: 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. Then unscramble the letters to complete the statements.

- In light of this passage, **oGd** God's law is being referenced in James 2.
- wTo** Two commands are given.

Reread James 2:9-13. Match the references to the correct statements.

Our Relationship to the Law	Reference
<u>d</u> We are to speak and act as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.	a. Matthew 7:2
<u>c</u> To stumble in just one part of the law makes a person guilty of all.	b. James 2:9
<u>a</u> We will be judged in the same way we judge others.	c. James 2:10
<u>b</u> The law convicts us as transgressors.	d. James 2:12

The law's perfect standard motivates us to not show favoritism in our relationships. That perfect standard of justice might lead us to despair, except that it also points us to grace.

Read Galatians 3:24 and answer the questions.

- To what is the law compared? **Guardian/schoolmaster/tutor**
- What was the purpose of the law? **To lead/bring us to/unto Christ/until Christ came in**

Read Galatians 3:13-14 and answer the question to learn about Christ's gracious provision.

- How did Christ affect the curse of the law? **AWV. He redeemed us from it.**
- Why did Christ do this? **AWV. So we could receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**

Jesus perfectly 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. Notice that impartiality toward the rich is addressed in verse 5. However, Scripture also speaks about favoritism with regard to other classes and people.

Read the following cross-references. On the line next to each item, put an "X" for what God does not favor or a "✓" for what He values.

- 1. Acts 10:34-35        X   Nationality        ✓   Fear of God and righteousness
- 2. Galatians 3:26-28        ✓   Faith in Christ        X   Male or female

God's impartial character overlooks a person's outward circumstances, but does He ever overlook their sin? Read Romans 2:4-11, then match God's response to the behavior listed in each verse.

Verse	God's Response
<u>  d  </u> Verse 7	a. Will give tribulation and distress
<u>  b  </u> Verse 8	b. Will give wrath, indignation, and anger
<u>  a  </u> Verse 9	c. Will give glory, honor, and peace
<u>  c  </u> Verse 10	d. Will give eternal life

How blessed we are to worship a God who is impartial both in His judgment of sin and in His mercy toward repentant sinners!

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

In the study passage, the author addresses subjects of anger, our tongue (words), and how we respond to God's Word. This epistle provides practical instruction for our lives. Read the verses from the Scripture bank and match them to the "Teaching of Jesus."

James 2:8
James 2:10
James 2:11a

Tenet of James	Teaching of Jesus
James 2:11a	"You know the commandments: 'Do not murder...'" (Mark 10:19a ESV).
James 2:8	"The second [commandment] is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" (Mark 12:31a NIV).
James 2:10	"Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, 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. Read James 2:11. Then mark the cross-reference from Proverbs that best relates to James' teaching.

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



# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-14

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

Each of the following passages describes a person or people group who acted mercilessly. **Read the references and fill in the blanks to learn who was merciless, what merciless act they committed, and the judgment they received for their action.**

1. Judges 1:4-7

**Who:** Adoni-bezek/ Adonibezek cut off the thumbs and big toes of seventy kings.

**Judgment:** He had his thumbs and big toes cut off.

2. 1 Samuel 15:32-33

**Who:** Agag, king of the Amalekites, had made women childless with his sword.

**Judgment:** He was put to death before the Lord in Gilgal.

3. Obadiah 1:1,10,15

**Who:** The people of Edom did violence against their brother Jacob.

**Judgment:** The nations/heathen would rise against Edom in battle, and Edom would be covered with shame.

 **mercy (James 2:13b)** Strong's #: **G1656** Greek word: **eleos**

Strong's Definition: **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. **Read each reference and write the person or group who were shunned by people but shown mercy by Jesus.**

4. Matthew 9:10-13 Tax collectors/publicans and sinners

5. Matthew 19:13-14 Children

6. Luke 18:35-42 A blind man

7. Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus

Truly, mercy triumphs over judgment! Regardless of what others do, may we follow His example of showing kindness and mercy—and thrive in love!

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*.

We have learned that love for others demonstrates spiritual maturity and is the sign of a true believer.

Love is essential. When we grow in love, we will grow in the characteristics found in 1 Corinthians 13. **Circle every characteristic that is true of love.** These should be increasing in our lives. **Draw a line through those that are not true of love.** We should see these less and less in our lives.

Patient and kind

Does not envy

Boastful

~~Acts disgracefully, is rude, or dishonoring~~

~~Seeks its own way~~

~~Easily provoked or irritable~~

~~Rejoices in wrongdoing~~

Rejoices with the truth

Believes all things

Hopes all things

Endures all things

Fails

Unscramble the letters to learn additional truths the Bible teaches about love.

1. Love your **menesei** enemies and **yrap** pray for your persecutors (Matt. 5:44-46).
2. All the **wla** law depends on loving God and loving your **regnhiob** neighbor (Matt. 22:35-40).
3. **vSree** Serve one another through **voel** love (Gal. 5:13).

**Write your theme for Unit 3.**





# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-14

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

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

The following statements summarize the interaction between Gideon and the Lord (or angel of the Lord) found in Judges 6:12-23.

1. Circle the words of encouragement or promise from the Lord (or angel of the Lord) to Gideon.
2. Underline Gideon's words

The Lord is with you, mighty man of valor.

If the Lord is with us, why has all this happened?

Where are His miracles that our ancestors told us about?

The Lord has forsaken us and given us to Midian.

Go in this your strength and save Israel from Midian. Have I not sent you?

Please, Lord, how am I to save Israel?

My family clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.

Surely I will be with you, and you will strike down the Midianites as one man.

If now I have found favor in Your eyes, show me a sign that you are talking with me.

Please do not depart until I come back and bring out my present and set it before You.

I will wait until you come back.

Put the meat and bread on the rock and pour out the broth.

Gideon obeyed.

Alas, O Lord God! For I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face!

Peace to you. Do not fear; you shall not die.

Notice that nearly all of the Lord's statements to Gideon contained a promise. Although Gideon was fearful, God was merciful to him, strengthening him for the task ahead.

Judges 6:24-25 gives the account about two altars. **Fill in the blanks to learn about each one.**



Gideon  
built an altar unto the  
Lord and called it  
The Lord is Peace/  
Jehovahshalom.

The Lord told Gideon  
to take his father's  
bull/bullock and  
throw down the altar  
of Baal that belonged  
to his father, then cut  
down the Asherah pole  
beside it.



Humanly speaking, Gideon was an unlikely candidate to save Israel from their enemies. His clan was the weakest of the tribe of Manasseh, and he was the least in his family, but God chose him as a valiant warrior.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 3, LESSON 5

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

Review this unit, then solve each word jumble below using the corresponding clue. Unscramble the circled letters in those answers to solve question 11.

Jumble	Clue	Answer
1. ETUOGN	One of the subjects discussed in the study passage is the _____.	T O N G U E
2. SEWJ	The first Christian believers were _____.	J E W S
3. HIDOOSERDN	James' readers had _____ the poor.	D I S H O N O R E D
4. CIOLENECR	Early church services had a time for believers to _____ with each other if there were problems between them.	R E C O N C I L E
5. HTUTR	To those who don't obey _____, God will give wrath, indignation, and anger.	T R U T H
6. TTPEANI	Love is _____ and kind.	P A T I E N T
7. BRHOINGE	All the law depends on loving God and loving your _____.	N E I G H B O R
8. SIKS	An important part of first-century believers' service was the exchange of a holy _____.	K I S S
9. ECNOIDRT	Early church services included _____.	D O C T R I N E
10. EVOL	Serve one another through _____.	L O V E

11. What do the rich and poor have in common?

T h e L o r d i s t h e M a k e r o f t h e m a l l.

## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Favoritism is disobedience to God's law. In contrast, love reveals a genuine faith that enables us to thrive in our relationships.

**Reflect:** Do I act toward all people justly without favoritism?

Engage in one of the following activities that shows impartiality.

1. Do an act of kindness for someone unable to repay you.
2. Reach out to a peer or classmate whom you normally overlook.

**Recite:** Memory passage, James 2:8-10



# EXPLORE • UNIT 3, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 2:1-13 | Memory Passage: Judges 6:11-14

Review this unit before answering the questions.

### True or False

- F   1. Partiality and love judge by outward appearance.
- T   2. Love fulfills the law.
- T   3. To stumble in just one part of the law makes a person guilty of all.
- T   4. The law was our guardian until Christ came.
- F   5. One group of people that others shunned but Jesus showed mercy to were widows.

### Matching

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <u>  e  </u> 6. If you show partiality, you are committing a sin.   | a. Judges 6:12      |
| <u>  b  </u> 7. The Spirit of the Lord came on Gideon.              | b. Judges 6:24      |
| <u>  d  </u> 8. Jesus showed mercy to children.                     | c. Matthew 7:2      |
| <u>  a  </u> 9. The Lord called Gideon a mighty man of valor.       | d. Matthew 19:13-14 |
| <u>  c  </u> 10. We will be judged in the same way we judge others. | e. James 2:9        |

### Unscramble the Letters

- 11. The people of **oEmd**   Edom   did violence against their brother Jacob.
- 12. The Greek word *eleos* is translated **crmye**   mercy  .
- 13. Gideon was commanded to tear down the **raalt**   altar   of Baal that belonged to his **efahrt**   father  .
- 14. Mercy triumphs over **gmetjndu**   judgment  .
- 15. We are to speak and act as those who will be judged by the law of **iytlebr**   liberty  .

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

James 2:5 reminds us that God is impartial. This fact encourages us as we reflect on the truth that God's mercy toward those who repent is just as impartial as His judgment of those who do not. His promise is that He bestows His riches on all who call on Him—whatever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (Rom. 10:12-13)!

**Reflect:** As God's image bearer, do you reflect His impartial nature in your attitude and actions?

- 1. Ask God to reveal any area of your relationships that needs to reflect God's impartial nature more.
- 2. Ask a parent or mature, trusted friend to tell you an area of your life where they see you showing partiality.

**Recite:** Memory passage, Judges 6:11-14





## 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 a true-to-life illustration and actual examples, James presents a brilliant argument to show the believers that faith and works cannot be separated. A dead faith is useless, but authentic faith is confirmed 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 2:15–18



## 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 2:15-18

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. The theme is being a "doer" because true faith is not passive; it's active—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, and 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. This word is usually translated "works," but the NIV translates it as "deeds," "action," "do," etc. For simplicity, we will use the English word "works" most often throughout this study.

James opens our study passage by asking if a person has faith but no works, can that faith save him. In the verses that follow, James answers his own questions using both negative and positive examples.

**Mark each question true or false (T/F). If it is false, underline the words that make it so, and then on the line, write the correct words to make the statement true.**

- F   1. James uses the two negative examples: someone who does not care for his brother and religious leaders. demons/devils
- T   2. James uses the two positive examples: Abraham and Rahab. \_\_\_\_\_
- T   3. In verses 17, 20, and 26 faith without works is described as dead and useless. \_\_\_\_\_

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 Growth cipher to discover the divisions of James 2:14-26.**

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

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

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



# EXPLORE • UNIT 4, LESSON 1

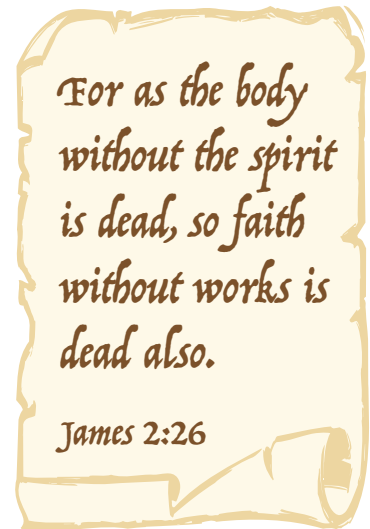
Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: Joshua 2:8-11

**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 help his readers understand the importance of works with believing faith.

**Fill in the letters to complete James' rhetorical questions.**

1. What use is it if someone says he has f a i t h but does not have w o r k s?
2. What does it profit if someone s p e a k s a blessing to a n e e d y brother but does not meet his need?
3. Do you want to be shown, f o o l i s h man, that faith apart from d e e d s is u s e l e s s?
4. Was not our father A b r a h a m considered r i g h t e o u s for his works when he offered I s a a c on the altar?
5. Was not R a h a b considered righteous when she lodged the spies and s e n t them out?



James used four examples to emphasize that faith and works cannot be separated. We will expound on these throughout this unit. **Match each example with the corresponding truth that faith is coupled with works.** The first answer is given to you.

**Truth**

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

**Example**

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

When the study passage says a man is justified by works as well as by faith, what does it mean? Because Scripture never contradicts itself, we will interpret this passage with other parts of God's Word. **Read Galatians 2:16. According to this verse, what do the works of the law not do? AWW. Justify a person**

**Complete the word study below.**

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

*Outline of Biblical Usage* Definition I: to render **righteous** or such he ought to be II: to **show**, exhibit, evince, one to be righteous, such as he is and wishes himself to be considered

According to the word study, "justified/considered righteous" can either refer to the act of salvation or to the evidence of salvation. The Galatians cross-reference defines 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 work because we have faith!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 4, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: James 2:15-18

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



The Roman Empire was extensive—stretching 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. James, in his epistle, instructed believers to affirm their faith by their actions.

Roman citizens 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 Judea and the Diaspora as stubborn people. 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 policy 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 instructed believers to live well under Rome even when they were treated poorly.



However, what was meant for evil, God used for good. Because of the Roman road system that extended across the empire, believers could easily travel and spread the gospel. Christians held steadfastly to the Word of God as they experienced physical, societal, and economic persecution. As a result, the early church prospered. Although believers never gained political independence, they remained faithful to God, even to the point of death for many of them.



### Unscramble the letters to complete the sentences.

1. The Roman roads made spreading the gospel **seay** easy.



2. Jesus told his followers to pay to **aCarse** Caesar what was Caesar's.

3. Rome viewed the people of Judea and the Diaspora as **norubsbt** stubborn.

4. The early church prospered in spite of **eetocnipsru** persecution.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 4, LESSON 2

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

In James 2:8 the writer urged his readers to demonstrate love as an indicator of their spiritual well-being. He now uses the first of four examples—a negligent person—to warn the readers about faith being dead because loving compassion is missing.



Read the study passage, paying close attention to verses 14-17.

### Example #1: A Negligent Person

Circle the correct word to fill in James' rhetorical question that opens the study passage.

"Can faith without deeds prayer) (help, save someone?"

Before James answers his own question, he gives us an example of a negligent person.

Mark the bubbles to complete the paraphrase of the example.

- Someone says, "I have faith," but has no \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 14).  
 Works       Compassion       Follow-up
- Someone says, "Go in \_\_\_\_\_, be warmed and well fed," but does nothing  
 Strength       Peace       Health  
 about the needs of the \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 16).  
 Finances       Spirit       Body

Now circle the correct word as James answers his own question.

"(Prayer, Faith) by itself, without works and action, is (dead, delayed).

- We know that James' readers may have been guilty of the type of treatment he is condemning because they had dishonored the poor (James 2:6).
- The topic of clothing referenced in verse 15 was also mentioned in James 2:3 when James taught about partiality.

Other Scriptures reinforce the teaching that how we treat others reveals the genuineness of our faith. Read the cross-references and fill in the blanks to learn more about true faith.

### 1 John 3:17-20

- The love of God cannot dwell in someone who closes his heart to a brother in need.
- We should love in deed and in truth.

### Matthew 25:31-46

- Jesus spoke of the following areas of need: being hungry, thirsty, being a stranger, needing clothing, being sick, and being in prison.
- In verse 46, people who met these needs are described as righteous.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 4, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: James 2:15-18

## Read the study passage.

As we grow in obedience, we will thrive in our works. The Bible often uses the word “good” to describe works that result from authentic faith. **Read the Scripture and answer the questions.**

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)

1. What are we? **His workmanship**
2. What are we created for? **Good works**
3. How are we to respond to God’s reason for creating us? **AWV. Walk in the good works**

**Read each phrase that describes how we should be. Then match the correct cross-reference to it.**

### We should be...

- d   careful to be devoted to good works.
- c   thoroughly equipped for every good work.
- a   well reported for good works.
- b   rich in good works.

### Cross-reference

- a. 1 Timothy 5:9-10
- b. 1 Timothy 6:18
- c. 2 Timothy 3:17
- d. Titus 3:8

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

The study passage focuses on the relationship of faith and works, but other subjects are also mentioned, some of which Jesus also taught about. **Read the verses from the Scripture bank and match them to the “Teaching of Jesus.”**

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

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



The book of Proverbs, James, and Jesus address a topic that is still important in our lives. **Reread James 2:23, then mark the cross reference that contains a parallel idea.**

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



# EXPLORE • UNIT 4, LESSON 3

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

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

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

**credited/counted/imputed/accounted (James 2:23)** According to *Outline of Biblical Usage*

Definition *l.1.B*: 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. Unscramble the letters to complete the paraphrased statements.

1. The **necanlu** unclean spirit cried out, "Let us alone! What do you have to do with us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God!"
2. **eusJs** Jesus' rebuke was, "Be quiet, and come out of him!"
3. "What is this? He even **anmdsmco** commands the impure spirits and they obey Him."

Intellectually, the demons know who Jesus is and obey Him, but they have no desire to submit to Him as Lord. Their belief is strong enough to make them tremble in terror, but does not lead them to worship in reverent love.

### Example #3: Abraham

Review the word study for "justified/considered righteous" in *Explore 4.1* before answering the questions from the study passage.

4. When Abraham offered his son Isaac on the altar, Abraham was justified by his works.
5. When Abraham believed God, it was counted to him as righteousness.
6. Abraham's faith was perfected/completed by his works.



The study passage references two events in Abraham's life: when he was justified by faith (the act of salvation) and when he was justified by works (the evidence of salvation). The second instance is mentioned in verse 21, while the first is alluded to in verse 23. Understanding both occasions gives a picture of how faith and action work together.

Read Genesis 15:1-6 and Genesis 22:1-17 Use the Thrive cipher to complete the statement to see what each passage describes.

7. Abraham was justified by 🔥🍎🕯️🪄➡️ f a i t h (Gen. 15:1-6).
8. Abraham was justified by 📖☀️💧🚰❄️➡️ w o r k s (Gen. 22:1-17).

In contrast to the demons whose knowledge causes them to shudder in fear, Abraham's faith led him to worship and to offer to God his son Isaac, his most valuable treasure.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 4, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 2:14-26 | Memory Passage: James 2:15-18

## 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.

⊞ **sanctification** According to *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*  
Definition: 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**

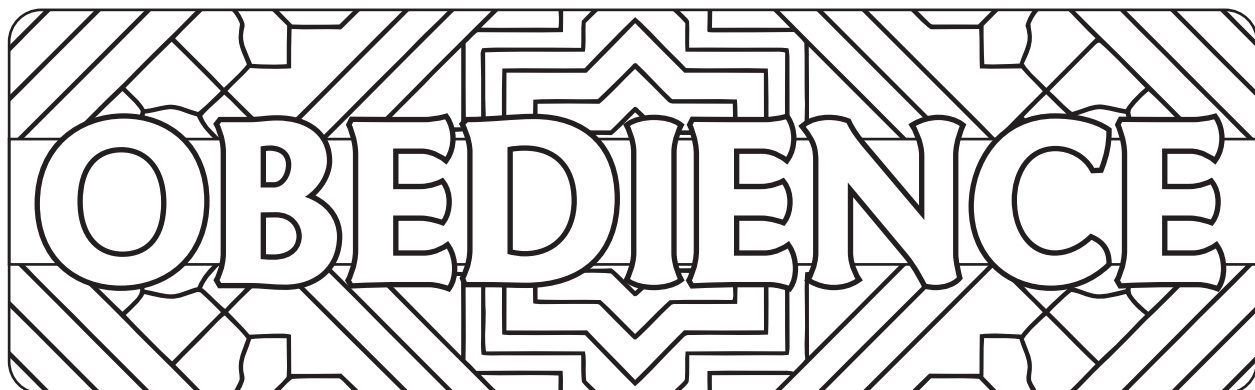
Two Greek words are translated as “work” in this passage. The first Greek word (v. 12) refers to man’s work and focuses on the action. However, the second word, *energeō*, emphasizes the power involved. It is the same Greek word used to describe God’s act of raising Christ from the dead (Eph. 1:20).

### Filling in the missing letters to summarize truths taught in Philippians 2:12-13.

1. Paul describes the believer’s obedience as a l w a y s, in his p r e s e n c e, and in his a b s e n c e.
2. Believers must work out their salvation with fear and t r e m b l i n g.
3. God is at w o r k in believers.
4. God’s work in believers is for his good p l e a s u r e.

The Lord provides both the will and the way to obey Him. Our faith only works because God is working in us!

📝 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 walked in fearless obedience. Rahab, the last of James' four examples in the study passage, was such a person.

### Example #4: Rahab

Read James 2:25-26 and Joshua 2:1-21. Fill in the blanks in the summary of Joshua 2:1-4, 8-9.

When the King of Jericho heard that two men/spies from Israel had been sent into the land and were at Rahab's house, he commanded her to bring out the men. Instead, she hid them because she knew that the Lord had given them the land.



Reread verses 8-10. Rahab made three declarations about God and His works. Circle the correct words in parentheses.

1. The Lord has given you (your enemies, the land).
2. The Lord dried up the water of the (Red Sea Jordan River).
3. [The Israelites] destroyed Sihon and Og, kings of the (Amalekites, Amorites).
4. Rahab was justified by (faith, works) when she received the spies and sent them out another direction (James 2:25).
5. Rahab's declaration that their God was in heaven above and on earth below demonstrated her (believing faith justification by works).

Scripture tells of the blessings that resulted from Rahab's trustful obedience when she lived in Jericho. Read the cross-references and complete her biographical sketch.

6. Rahab lived in \_\_\_\_\_ (Josh. 6:25)  
 Bethlehem       Israel       Jerusalem
7. Rahab married \_\_\_\_\_, son of Judah's tribal leader (Matt. 1:5).  
 Salma/Salmon       Nahshon       Amminadab
8. Rahab was the mother of \_\_\_\_\_, a direct ancestor of Jesus Christ (Matt. 1:1, 5).  
 David       Jesse       Boaz/Booz

In addition, her name is also included in the "Hall of Faith" chapter (Heb. 11:31)!

If the Lord had not been who Rahab declared Him to be, the scarlet cord could have become her death sentence. However, because He is God, the cord became her deliverance. 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 2:15-18

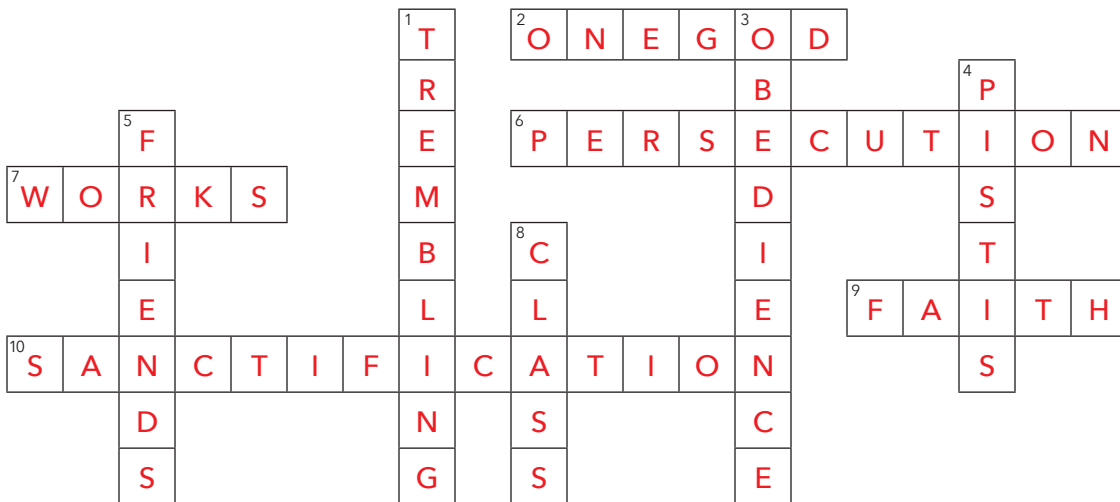
Complete the crossword puzzle to review this unit.

## ACROSS

- Because Jews and Christians believed in one God, Rome viewed them as stubborn people.
- The early church prospered in spite of persecution.
- We should be rich in good works (1 Tim. 6:18).
- Faith works in compassion, surrender, and fearlessness.
- The process or result of God's continuing work in Christian believers through the power of the Holy Spirit is the definition for "sanctification."

## DOWN

- Paul said believers are to work out their salvation with fear and trembling.
- Paul describes the believers' obedience as "always," "in his presence," and "in his absence."
- The Greek word for faith is pistis.
- Jesus said, "I have called you friends."
- Roman society was separated by class.



## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

In this unit we learned that as we are obedient, our faith matures and we will show this by godly works.

**Reflect:** Is my obedience to God increasing steadily?

Demonstrate your faith this week by choosing to do godly works.

- Initiate helping a neighbor do something you do not ordinarily do.
- Use one block of time you usually spend as "free time" and do a chore or job for a family member that you do not regularly do.

**Recite:** Memory passage, James 2:15-18



# 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

- T   1. Faith without works is dead.
- T   2. The works of the law cannot justify a person.
- T   3. The love of God cannot dwell in someone who closes his heart to a brother in need.
- F   4. Rahab hid the two spies from Israel because she was afraid of the king of Jericho.
- F   5. A wicked person says, "I have faith," but has no works.

### Matching

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| <u>  b  </u> 6. An unclean spirit called Jesus the "Holy One of God."     | a. 1 Chronicles 2:10-11 |
| <u>  a  </u> 7. Rahab married Salmon.                                     | b. Mark 1:23-24         |
| <u>  c  </u> 8. The readers of the book of James had dishonored the poor. | c. James 2:6            |
| <u>  e  </u> 9. We are to love in deed and in truth.                      | d. James 2:21-22        |
| <u>  d  </u> 10. Abraham's faith was perfected by his works.              | e. 1 John 3:18          |

### Fill in the Blank

- 11. When Abraham believed God, it was counted to him as **gsnrhseesuio**   righteousness  .
- 12. Rahab's name is included in the "Hall of Faith" chapter in **beesHwr**   Hebrews  .
- 13. Jesus told the unclean spirit to be **teuiq**   quiet   and come out of the man.
- 14. Demons believe, but don't **tbsuim**   submit   to Him as Lord.
- 15. The Greek word for **difjiutse**   justified   in James 2:21 is *dikaioō*.

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

James 2:23 reveals that God is relational. 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.

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

Write down two ways that you can reflect God's relational nature in the way you relate to friends or family members.

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**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;  
Psalm 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**—Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield.

	<h2>God Is Our Creator</h2> <p>James 3:9</p>	
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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 is specifically addressing those wanting to be teachers, his exhortations in this chapter are important for all believers.

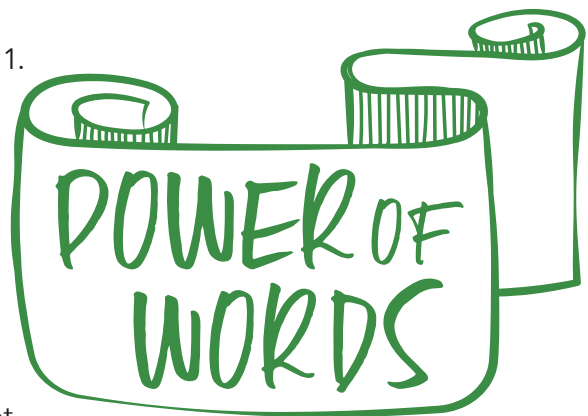
Read the study passage, James 3:1-18, and mark the key verses, James 3:10-13, in your Bible.

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

<b>tongue (James 3:5)</b>	Strong's #: <b>G1100</b>	Greek word: <b>glōssa</b>
Outline of Biblical Usage Definition 1: <b>the tongue, a member of the body, an organ of speech</b>		

Complete the words in the statements that summarize the study passage and learn about our tongue and its impact.

1. James mentions t e a c h e r s in verse 1.
2. A perfect man is one who does not offend in what he s a y s (v. 2).
3. Someone who does not stumble in his words is also able to direct his whole b o d y.
4. The tongue is able to d e f i l e the whole body.
5. No h u m a n being can tame the tongue.
6. James contrasted w i s d o m that does not come down from above and w i s d o m from above.



Identifying key exhortations and commands in a study passage helps us discover passage divisions. **Read the references and unscramble the letters to discover each exhortation that introduces the division.**

James 3:1 (NASB)—Not many should become **crtsaeeh** teachers because they will receive a stricter **tejngumd** judgment.

James 3:13 (NKJV)—Let those who are **siew** wise and understanding among you show by **oodg** good conduct that their works are done in the meekness of **mwoisd** wisdom.

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

To help communicate spiritual truth, James incorporates many figures of speech into his epistle. Among these are the metaphor and analogy.

**= metaphor** According to *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*

Definition: a figure of speech in which a word or phrase literally denoting one kind of object or idea is used in place of another to suggest a likeness or analogy between them

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

- In verses 5 and 8, the tongue is described as small/little and restless/unruly.
- Fill in the blank to complete each description of an action the tongue performs.
  - Boasts/boasteth great things (v. 5)
  - Defiles/staining/defileth/corrupts the whole body (v. 6)
  - Sets/setting/setteth on fire the entire course of nature on fire (v. 6)
  - Bless/praise God (v. 9)
  - Curse men (v. 9)
- The people who are cursed are made in the likeness God.
- In verse 11, James uses the picture of a spring/fountain to show how strange it is for the tongue to both bless and curse.

**= analogy** According to *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*

Definition: a comparison of two otherwise unlike things based on resemblance of a particular aspect

James 3:3-5 offers three comparisons of the small tongue to small objects that create an impact on something much larger.

**Complete the table containing the analogies James uses and consider the power of the tongue.**

Small Object	Action	Object of Impact
A bit	Controls	<b>A horse</b>
A <u>rudder/helm</u>	Controls	A ship
A <u>small/little fire/spark</u>	Sets ablaze	A forest/matter

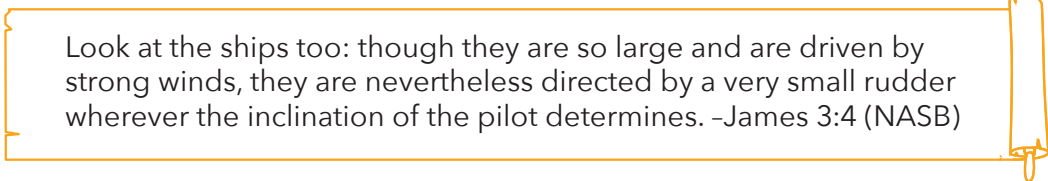
According to Proverbs 18:21, what two outcomes can result from the use of our tongue?  
**Unscramble the letters to find the answer.**

atheD Death, file life

James' rudder analogy reveals an incredible principle about our tongues.

**Read James 3:4 below to be reminded of the power of our tongue.**

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)





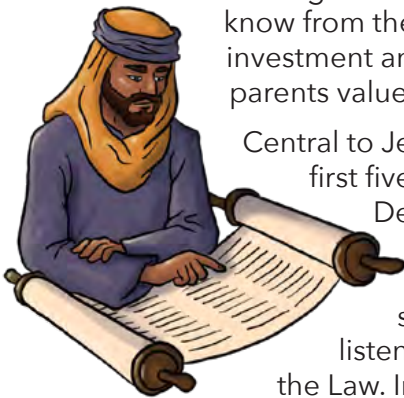
# NAVIGATE • UNIT 5, LESSON 2

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

## BACKGROUND STUDY • Culture: Education in Ancient Israel

Education was highly valued in ancient Jewish culture. From King Solomon, who prayed for wisdom, to the scribes who pored over the Law, people of Israel have always sought to grow in their knowledge and understanding. Although we have only limited resources on what education looked like in ancient Israel, we can glean interesting facts from the Bible and those sources available to us.

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 their father’s trade. Wealthier families could afford to educate their sons in elementary schools where some young men were instructed in Greek education. On the other hand, most of the girls’ training was 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 learned the Shema, the prayer from Deuteronomy 6:4-9. Scribes carefully preserved the Torah. Kings were instructed to write their own copy of the Torah to keep and read all their days (Deut. 17:18-19). Families regularly attended synagogue, where they listened to the reading of God’s Word. And listening was not enough—it was important for the people to understand the Law. In the book of Nehemiah, the Levites were among those with the responsibility to explain the Law’s meaning during public readings (Neh. 8:1, 7-8).

In the early days of the Law, Moses urged the people to teach the Torah to their children and to incorporate it into daily life (Deut. 6:6-9). Clearly, the Israelites were faithful to do this. 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.



The ancient Jews understood that the God of the universe communicated His message to them through His Word. Their passion for the Torah inspires us to pursue God’s Word—the best resource for growing in wisdom.

The Bible reveals a diversity of areas of Jewish education. **Read the references and write the words from the word bank that tell in what area each person or group was educated.**

Art of military    The law    The Law of Moses    Metalwork    Music

- 1 Kings 7:13-14—Hiram:     Metalwork
- 1 Chronicles 25:1, 6-7—Sons of Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun:     Music
- 2 Chronicles 25:5—Men of Judah:     Art of military
- Ezra 7:6—Ezra:     Law of Moses
- Acts 21:40; 22:3—Paul:     The law



# EXPLORE • UNIT 5, LESSON 2

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

🔑 Read the study passage and 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 1: **manner of life, conduct, behaviour, deportment**

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

Outline of Biblical Usage Definition 1.1.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 word *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.

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



**Use the Thrive cipher to glean more truths from the study passage.**

1. The sinful qualities in verse 14 are not the  
 → **W i s d o m** from above.

2. Those who are peacemakers sow the fruit of  
 → **R i g h t e o u s n e s s**.

Reread James 3:15-17, which describes two kinds of wisdom—earthly wisdom and heavenly wisdom. Next to each description, write "EW" (earthly wisdom) or "HW" (heavenly wisdom). Put a star beside the description of heavenly wisdom that James says comes first.

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <u>EW</u> Earthly                      | <u>HW</u> Pure *               |
| <u>HW</u> Full of mercy and good fruit | <u>HW</u> Sincere              |
| <u>HW</u> Gentle and considerate       | <u>EW</u> Striving and selfish |
| <u>HW</u> Impartial                    | <u>EW</u> Unspiritual          |
| <u>EW</u> Jealous                      | <u>HW</u> Willing to yield     |

3. What does earthly wisdom result in (v. 16)? Disorder/confusion and every evil practice.

4. What does heavenly wisdom result in (v. 18)? A harvest of righteousness.

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



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

**Read James 3:8-12 and mark the keywords **bless/praise** and **curse**.**

Why is praising God but cursing people such a serious sin? **Read the cross-references and fill in the blanks to learn why cursing people is a serious sin.**

1. God created male and female, named them, and       **blessed**       them (Gen. 5:1-2).
2. God made mankind a little lower than       **God/the heavenly beings/angels**       (Ps. 8:1, 4-5).
3. If someone says he loves God but hates his brother, he is a       **liar**       (1 John 4:20).

God hates hypocrisy and considers our treatment of others, including how we talk to them, an indicator of our relationship with Him. What kind of speech would a mature Christian use?

**Match the references from the Scripture bank that gives instructions about our speech.**

- a. Proverbs 31:26      b. Ephesians 4:15      c. Ephesians 4:29

- a**    Speak with wisdom and kindness.
- c**    Speak to build up with grace and benefit those who listen.
- b**    Speak the truth in love.

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

In the study passage, the author connects the tongue, peace, and wisdom. Jesus also taught about these same topics. **Read the verses from the Scripture bank and match them to the "Teaching of Jesus."**

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

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



The books of Proverbs and James contain wisdom regarding a topic that 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



# 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 (James 3:17). 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 in good words.



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

**Read the statements and mark them true or false (T/F). If the statement is false, underline the word which makes it incorrect and write the correct word on the line.**

- F   1. A tree is known by its leaves. fruit
- T   2. The mouth speaks from the abundance of the heart. \_\_\_\_\_
- F   3. On the day of judgment we will be accountable for every curse word we speak. careless/idle/empty

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 the evidence of wise conduct is good fruit (James 3:13).

**Read the attributes of both earthly wisdom and heavenly wisdom in James 3:14-18. Then read the cross-references and fill in the name of the people whose actions exhibited a characteristic of either earthly or heavenly wisdom. Unscramble the words that show a fruit of wisdom, then circle the word that names that kind of wisdom.**

- 4. Joseph's brothers, who were sjeulao jealous of him when they heard his dreams, showed a characteristic of (earthly, heavenly) wisdom (Gen. 37:5-11).
- 5. Moses showed that he was ceebaepla peaceable when he used (earthly, heavenly) wisdom to settle matters among the Israelites (Ex. 18:13-16).
- 6. By not wanting to give up his riches, the young man revealed his ifehssl selfish ambition, which is a characteristic of (earthly, heavenly) wisdom (Matt. 19:16-22).
- 7. Being willing to deyil yield is a characteristic of (earthly, heavenly) wisdom, which Jesus displayed when He yielded to His Father's will (Luke 22:40-42).
- 8. Tabitha, who was always doing doog good and helping the poor, showed (heavenly, earthly) wisdom by being full of mercy and good fruits (Acts 9:36).

Is your life producing the fruit of heavenly or earthly wisdom? Evaluate your speech and conduct in light of the qualities James describes. Ask the Lord to help you start sowing in such a way as to reap a harvest of righteousness.



# 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.

What is wisdom? Read Job 28:28 and use the T9 cipher to complete the verse to answer the question.

And to man He said, Behold, the 3327 → f e a r of the Lord, that is wisdom.  
-Job 28:28a (NKJV)

Nearly one-fourth of the Bible's references to "wisdom" are found in the book of Proverbs. Read the Proverbs cross-references in the Scripture bank and match to each summary statement about wisdom.

- a. Proverbs 1:20, 24-29   b. Proverbs 2:6-7   c. Proverbs 3:13, 15-18   d. Proverbs 4:7

Wisdom's Reward	Wisdom's Warning	Wisdom's Source	Wisdom Pursued
<u>c</u> In wisdom's right hand is long life; in her left hand are riches and honor. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her.	<u>a</u> Those who refuse wisdom will have distress and anguish 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.	<u>b</u> The Lord gives wisdom. He stores up sound wisdom and success for the upright.	<u>d</u> Get wisdom and understanding.

Even Jesus, the Son of God, increased in wisdom during His life on earth. He is our example to do the same. Read the following references about Jesus' wisdom and fill in the correct bubbles.

1. Isaiah 11:2-3

- a. The spirit of wisdom would \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.  
 Come upon    Flow out of    Rest on
- b. He would delight in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord.  
 Fear    Love    Joy

2. Isaiah 50:4

\_\_\_\_\_, Jesus listened as someone who is taught.  
 Morning by morning    Every day    Evening by evening

3. Luke 2:40, 52

Jesus grew in wisdom and in \_\_\_\_\_ God and man.  
 Love for    Favor with    Obedience to

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. On the map identify locations in the account of David, Nabal, and Abigail.**

1. Draw a box around where Nabal was shearing sheep.
2. Draw a circle around the area where David and his men were staying.
3. Which direction did David and his men travel to get to Nabal? **North**

In biblical times, sheep-shearing was not only an occasion to collect the income-producing wool, but also a joyous community affair.

4. Nabal's servant displayed respect for **ilbagiA** Abigail by informing her of what was intended against her husband (v. 17).
5. When she met **vaiDd** David, Abigail did not excuse Nabal's foolish behavior.
6. Abigail told David that the **roLd** Lord had kept David from bloodshed and revenge (v. 26).
7. Abigail recognized that sometime in the future David would be **lrreu** ruler over Israel (v. 30).
8. David's response was to **slesb** bless the Lord God of Israel and Abigail (v. 32).



Abigail displayed wisdom from above in the events described in 1 Samuel 25. **Circle the words to create correct statements showing how Abigail's exhibited the heavenly wisdom described in James 3:17.**

1 Samuel 25	Abigail's Wisdom	Heavenly Wisdom
(vv. 23-24)	Abigail approached David respectfully as his (neighbor, <u>servant</u> ).	Pure
(vv. 25, 27)	Abigail asked David to disregard ( <u>Nabal's</u> , the workers') behavior and offered a gift.	Peaceable
(v. 24)	Abigail asked permission to speak to (the workers, <u>David</u> ).	Gentle and considerate
(v. 27)	( <u>Abigail</u> Nabal) asked for her gift to be given to the men with David.	Impartial
(v. 28)	Abigail asked David to forgive the ( <u>trespass</u> , husband) of his servant.	Sincere

Nabal reflected selfish, earthly wisdom, while Abigail reflected heavenly wisdom. Abigail refused to let her husband's character change who she was. His decisions could have caused disaster, but Abigail's decisions saved many lives. Nabal died and Abigail married the future ruler of Israel—David himself (1 Sam. 25:36-42)!



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 5, LESSON 5

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

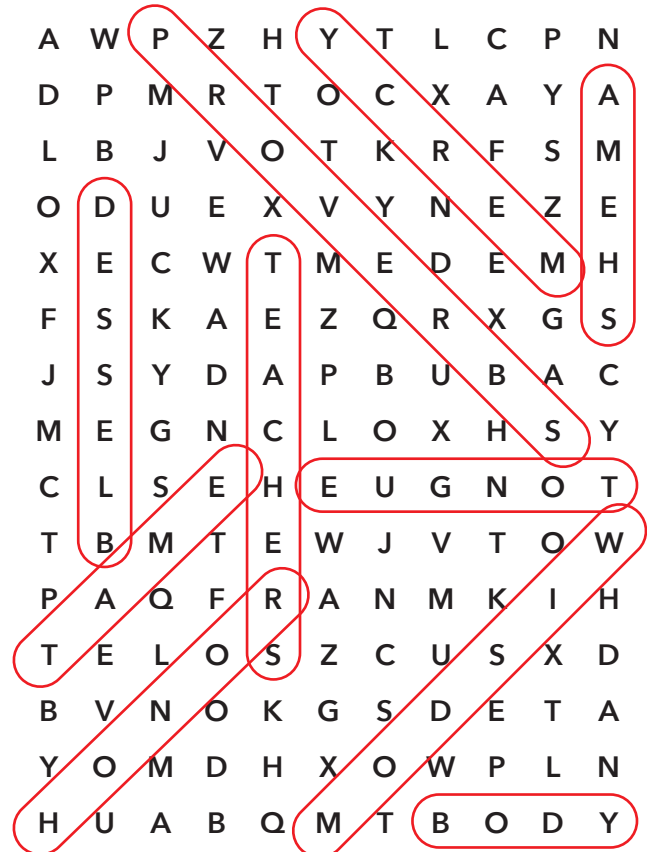
## WORD SEARCH

Review this unit before answering the questions or filling 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 wisdom in the study passage.
2. Teachers will receive a stricter judgment.
3. The Greek word *glōssa* is translated "tongue."
4. One who does not stumble in his words is able to direct his whole body.
5. Riches and honor are in wisdom's left hand.
6. The Proverbs 31 Woman had knowledge in business and real estate investment.
7. Jewish children learned the Shema, the prayer from Deuteronomy 6:4-9.
8. The merciful will receive mercy.
9. God created male and female, named them, and blessed them.
10. No human can tame the tongue.



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

We are called to showcase wisdom in the words we speak and the way we live. We mature by controlling our tongues through the Holy Spirit.

**Reflect:** How do my words sound to others in content and tone?

Thrive in your words this week by applying the following in your life.

1. Begin each day asking God to control your tongue.
2. Speak an encouraging word to someone who is weary.

**Recite:** Memory passage, James 3:7-13



# 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 had no idea that David was a future ruler of Israel.
- T 2. James compares the small bit in a horse’s mouth to the tongue to show the tongue’s large impact.
- T 3. The mouth speaks from the abundance of the heart.
- F 4. Death and health are in the power of the tongue.
- T 5. Those who are peacemakers sow the fruit of righteousness.

### Matching

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <u>b</u> 6. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.                                       | a. 1 Samuel 25:32-33 |
| <u>c</u> 7. Jesus displayed a characteristic of heavenly wisdom when He yielded to His Father’s will. | b. Luke 6:45         |
| <u>d</u> 8. People use the tongue to bless God and curse people.                                      | c. Luke 22:40-42     |
| <u>a</u> 9. David’s response to Abigail was to bless the Lord God and her.                            | d. James 3:9         |
| <u>e</u> 10. Earthly wisdom results in disorder and every evil practice.                              | e. James 3:16        |

### Choose the Words

- 11. The tongue defiles (our life, our whole body).
- 12. Heavenly wisdom is evidenced by both good behavior and good (thoughts, words).
- 13. (Heavenly, Earthly) wisdom is first pure.
- 14. A tree is known by its (leaves, fruit).
- 15. Nabal was shearing sheep in (Carmel, Maon).

## 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. James also instructs believers who lack wisdom to ask God and He will give it generously and without reproach (James 1:5).

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

What are two areas of life in which you recognize your need for wisdom? List areas of your life that can be impacted by applying God’s wisdom.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**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 believers toward maturity by focusing on several aspects of the Christian walk—unity among believers, repentance from sin, and a wise mindset regarding time. He encourages them to be fully committed to God and 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 4:7–10



## 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.

<b>Praise</b> —Psalm 19:7 and Psalm 119:97. Pray through these verses as you adore the God who gave us His perfect law.
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•
•
<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 4:7-10

In this unit's study passage, we recognize the undivided purpose of the 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)**

- James 1:8 describes the double-minded man as **eulbsatn** unstable in all his ways.
- People are not receiving what they ask for because they ask **yorlgwn** wrongly.
- The contrasting words used to describe the people mentioned in verse 4 are **direfn** friend and **eyemn** enemy.
- According to Matthew 6:24, no one can serve two **stersma** masters.
- James describes a cause and effect in the first half of verse 8: if we **wrda** draw **rean** near to God, He will draw near to us.
- The double-minded are told to **ryupfi** purify their hearts.

Believers must not waver in purpose, but live right with God and with each other!

The following chapter divisions summarize key themes throughout the study passage.

**Complete the Braille 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 Christian quality to the sentence referring to the Christian walk. Answers may be used more than once.**

**Sentence from James 4**

- c   Wash your hands, you sinners (v. 8).
- d   You ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that" (v. 15).
- a   Who are you to judge your neighbor (v.12)?
- c   Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will lift you up (v. 10).
- b   Don't you know that friendship with the world is enmity with God (v. 4)?
- a   Do not speak evil of each other, brothers and sisters (v. 11).

**Christian quality**

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



# 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' line of thought is still 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 and friend.**

**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 make pleasure their end goal in life instead.

**Read the scroll. Underline the infinitive phrase explaining why the people ask wrongly. Fill in the blanks to answer the questions James asks in the first verse of this chapter.**

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. You desire and do not have, so you murder.
2. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.
3. You ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly.

People's passion for pleasure not only impacts their relationships with others, but also with God. For believers to be unified, we must be undivided in our desire to follow Christ.

**Reread James 4:4. Then read the cross-references and unscramble the letters to see what the Word of God teaches about friendship with the world and enmity with God.**

4. The desires of the flesh, the desires of the **yees** eyes, and the **eipdr** pride of life are of the **dlrwo** world (1 John 2:15-16).
5. God **tguhof** fought against those who **lderbele** rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit (Isa. 63:10).
6. The desires of the **efhsl** flesh and desires of the **rSiitp** 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 4:7-10

## 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 several 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.

Men from the tribe of Levi filled the religious offices of the priests and Levites. They were not compensated in the traditional sense but lived off the tithes of the Israelites. The Levites collected tithes from the people and then gave a portion to the priests (Num. 18:20, 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 and prophetesses. 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 occupations 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!

Fill in the table to learn about the variety of vocations listed in the Bible.

Cross-reference	Who	Vocation
Judges 3:9-10	Othniel	Judge
1 Samuel 1:9	Eli	Priest
2 Kings 22:14	Huldah	Prophetess
Nehemiah 1:1, 11	Nehemiah	Cupbearer
Amos 1:1	Amos	Shepherd
Matthew 4:18	Simon and Andrew	Fishermen
Acts 16:14	Lydia	Seller of purple goods
Acts 18:1-3	Paul, Aquila, and Priscilla	Tentmakers



# EXPLORE • UNIT 6, LESSON 2

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

🔍 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, we find two hope-infused promises. **Fill in the letters to learn what those promises are.**

1. God will give more **g r a c e** (v. 6a).
2. God will give grace to the **h u m b l e** (v. 6b).

When we humble our hearts, God cleanses us of pride. Verses 7-10 contain a list of commands which, if obeyed, enables us to draw near to God. **Unscramble the letters to discover what God calls us to do.**

3. **Stimub** **Submit** to God.
4. **steiRs** **Resist** the devil, and he will flee from you.
5. Draw **rane** **near** to God, and He will draw near to you.
6. **nalCees** **Cleanse** your hands and **fupryi** **purify** your hearts.
7. Grieve and **ronum** **mourn** and weep!
8. Change your **terlguh** **laughter** to mourning and your **yjo** **joy** to grief.
9. **eumblH** **Humble** yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

The commands above summarize the concept of repentance, a vital part of Christian maturity.

= **repentance** According to *Webster's Dictionary 1828*

Definition: **sorrow** or deep contrition for sin...accompanied and followed by **amendment** of life. Repentance is a change of **mind**.

**Read Acts 26:20 and unscramble the letters to learn the process of repentance.**

When people repent, they must turn to **odG** **God** and do **eesdd** **deeds** consistent with **ctaeperenn** **repentance**.

According to James 4:11-12, when we are repentant over our own sin, we are less likely to judge others.





# NAVIGATE • UNIT 6, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: James 4:7-10

🔑 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**

Even after James calls the believers to humility, they assume that they can follow their own desires. But James challenges them to do the will of the Lord. He reminds the believers to not boast about what they want to do, but instead to do the good they must do!

Mature Christians realize that life is short and it is important to be good stewards of their time. **Circle the correct words and learn truths about thriving in your stewardship of time.**

1. Act wisely toward (**outsiders**) your family), redeeming the opportunity (Col. 4:5).
2. Since everything will be (restored, **dissolved**), what kind of people should we be (2 Peter 3:11-12)?
3. Make the most of your (blessings, **time**) and understand what the (**will**) instruction) of the Lord is (Eph. 5:15-17).
4. Do not wait until tomorrow to (**do good**) work) when you have the (resources, **power**) to do it now (Prov. 3:27-28).

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

In the study passage, the author discusses friendship with the world, a pure heart, judging and boasting—subjects that Jesus also addressed. **Read the verses from the Scripture bank and match them to the "Teaching of Jesus."**

James 4:8

James 4:10

James 4:12

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

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

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

Proverbs Pearl



# EXPLORE • UNIT 6, LESSON 3

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

Living faith produces genuine repentance. Dead faith exhibits a counterfeit repentance. How can we tell the difference?

**Read Proverbs 28:13-14.** This passage contrasts repentance and unrepentance. **Use these verses to fill in the blanks that describe this contrast.**



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 sin and hardens/hardeneth his heart

The Pharisees and Sadducees embodied counterfeit repentance. **Read Matthew 3:1-2, 7-9.**

The religious leaders of John the Baptist’s day serve as a warning to those who make a false show of penitence yet fail to turn from sin. 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 Matthew 26:69-75; Acts 4:13, 18-20 (about Peter) and Matthew 27:1-5 (about Judas) that describe the actions of these two men. Then write the letters from the right-hand column in the correct places on the table.**

	Peter	Judas
		
Sin	<u>  d  </u>	<u>  f  </u>
Response	<u>  a  </u>	<u>  e  </u>
Final Action	<u>  c  </u>	<u>  b  </u>

- a. Wept bitterly
- b. Hanged himself
- c. Spoke boldly in Jesus’ name
- d. Denied Jesus three times
- e. Said he had sinned
- f. Betrayed Jesus

In Joel 2:12-13, God lovingly calls His people to genuine repentance. **Read the passage and use the T9 cipher to create summary statements of the verses.**

- God urges His people to return to Him with all their **43278** ➔ h e a r t.
- God says to return because He is **47224687** ➔ g r a c i o u s.
- God says to return because He is slow to **26437** ➔ a n g e r.

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 4:7-10

## 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.

Living with purpose includes leaving behind our plans and passions. **Read Luke 14:26-28 about the first aspect—leaving behind our plans and passions—and fill in the blanks of the statements.**

1. True disciples carry their cross and come after/follow Christ.
2. True disciples have counted the cost, as would one who builds a tower.

**Read Philippians 3:12-16 below. Underline why Paul presses on and draw a circle around what two things he does as he presses on.**

“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).

Living with purpose also means looking ahead to the prize! **Read the cross-references in the Scripture bank and match them to the correct statements that give additional instructions for reaching the prize.**

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Proverbs 4:25-27      | b. Luke 9:62             |
| c. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 | d. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 |

- c Those who win the prize do not run aimlessly.
- b Those who look back are not fit for God's kingdom.
- a We must keep our eyes straight ahead.
- d We must look at the eternal over the temporal.

As our ultimate example of walking intentionally, Christ marked out the path for us.

**Read His prayer in John 17:4 and fill in the blank to reveal how Jesus fulfilled His Father's purpose for Him.**

He accomplished/finished the work His Father had given Him to do.

**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 reign of Israel’s wicked King Ahab, Elijah was the Lord’s prophet. God’s people were following the idol Baal. During this rebellious time, God appointed a terrible drought (1 Kings 17:1) that He promised to end if Elijah would present himself to King Ahab (1 Kings 18:1). Elijah obeyed and told Ahab to assemble the people and the false prophets to Mount Carmel. Then Elijah gave them the challenge found in today’s reading passage.

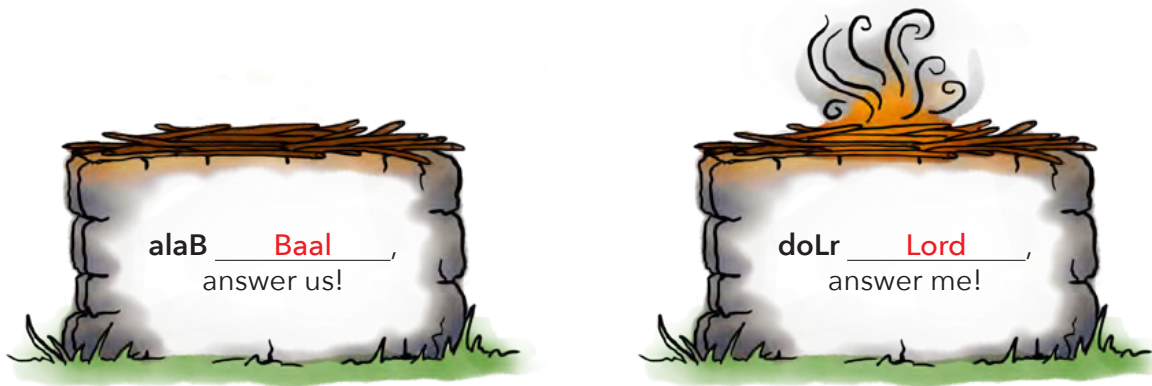
Fill in the blanks with the correct answers from 1 Kings 18:21.

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| <u>  c  </u> How long will you waver between two different choices?   | a. Elijah’s exhortation |
| <u>  a  </u> If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him. | b. The people’s answer  |
| <u>  b  </u> Not a word   | c. Elijah’s question    |

Elijah called the idolatrous Israelites, who had a divided mind, to repentance, as James did to the readers in the study passage.

- Elijah stood against   450   prophets of Baal.
- The true God would answer by   fire  .

Unscramble the letters to see the prayers of Baal’s prophets and of Elijah.



Fill in the blanks that state the people’s response and how the prophets were punished after the true God answered by fire.

- The people cried, “The   Lord  , He is God. The LORD, He is   God  ” (v. 39).
- They took the prophets of Baal and   slaughtered/slew/executed   them at the   Brook Kishon/Kishon Valley   (v. 40).

The unstable, double-minded man James describes bears no resemblance to bold, confident Elijah.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 6, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 4:1-17 | Memory Passage: James 4:7-10

Solve each word jumble below using the corresponding clue. Then unscramble the circled letters in those answers to solve question 11.

Jumble	Clue	Answer
1. BEDLUO	A _____-minded man is unstable in all his ways.	D <u>o</u> u <u>b</u> l <u>e</u>
2. GWYRNOL	People don't receive what they ask for because they ask _____.	W <u>r</u> o <u>n</u> g <u>l</u> y
3. NEICITARHEN	For the Levites and priests, the Lord was their _____.	I <u>n</u> h <u>e</u> r <u>i</u> t <u>a</u> n <u>c</u> e
4. CILIPRSA	Paul, Aquila, and _____ were tentmakers.	P <u>r</u> i <u>s</u> c <u>i</u> l <u>l</u> a
5. DGOO	Do not wait to do _____ when it is your power to do it now.	G <u>o</u> o <u>d</u>
6. RDWLO	Friendship with the _____ is enmity with God.	W <u>o</u> r <u>l</u> d
7. RANDWE	_____ was a fisherman.	A <u>n</u> d <u>r</u> e <u>w</u>
8. MAYSSLILE	Those who win the prize do not run in this way.	A <u>i</u> m <u>l</u> e <u>s</u> s <u>l</u> y
9. LIOHETN	_____ was a judge.	<u>O</u> t <u>h</u> n <u>i</u> e <u>l</u>
10. YPRFIU	The double-minded are to _____ their hearts.	P <u>u</u> r <u>i</u> f <u>y</u>

11. Requirements to be Christ's disciple:

Count his cost, carry their cross, and follow Christ.

## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

As we observed in this unit, James 4 emphasizes repentance as essential to growing in Christian purpose.

**Reflect:** What do I need to turn away from to follow God wholeheartedly?

To help you thrive in your walk this week, commit to the following actions.

- Repent (change your mind) about an area of your life that has kept you from pressing toward the prize of the high calling of God in Christ.
- Using Scriptures, prayerfully write a purpose statement for your life.

**Recite:** Memory passage, James 4:7-10



# 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

- T   1. The Greek word *hēdonē* means “sensual delight; by implication, desire.”
- F   2. Elijah stood against five hundred prophets of Chemosh.
- F   3. God urges His people to return to Him because they know it is right.
- T   4. As a result of Peter’s repentance, he spoke boldly in Jesus’ name.
- T   5. To humble oneself in the presence of the Lord is part of the concept of repentance.

### Matching

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| <u>  c  </u> 6. Turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance.                  | a. 1 Kings 18:21      |
| <u>  d  </u> 7. Godly grief produces repentance that leads to salvation.              | b. Joel 2:12-13       |
| <u>  e  </u> 8. The desires of the flesh and of the Spirit are opposed to each other. | c. Acts 26:20         |
| <u>  b  </u> 9. God urges His people to return to Him with all their heart.           | d. 2 Corinthians 7:10 |
| <u>  a  </u> 10. If the Lord is God, follow Him.                                      | e. Galatians 5:17     |

### Fill in the Blank

- 11. You **tevoc**   covet   and cannot obtain, so you **hfitg**   fight   and quarrel.
- 12. God will give more **cgear**   grace  .
- 13. When we are repentant over our own sin, we are less likely to **ugejd**   judge   others.
- 14. The desires of the flesh, the desires of the eyes, and pride of life are of the **lrdow**   world  .
- 15. **pcateerRne**   Repentance   is a change of mind.

## KNOW GOD’S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

James 4:12 reminds us that God is the Lawgiver and Judge. He is also Redeemer and Savior, and no one rivals Him. In Isaiah 40:25, God Himself poses the rhetorical question: “To whom will you compare me, that I should be like him” (ESV)? The answer is, “no one”!

**Reflect:** Do I recognize that not one compares to God in His supremacy?

Choose one of the following activities to deepen your submission to God.

- 1. Prayerfully submit to God an area of your life that you have not released to His control.
- 2. Repent (change your mind) of any attempts to have your own will. Allow Him to lead you.

**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 returns 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 42:10-15

## 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>	
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Prepare your heart for the study of Scripture by celebrating the power of our warrior God. He hears our cry and 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 people/rich/rich men** and **coming of the Lord/the Lord's coming**.

1. In verses 1-6, James addresses r i c h people.
2. In verses 7-20, James addresses b r o t h e r s and s i s t e r s.

In James' words to the second group, the believers, he gave specific instructions about how to respond to various situations. **Read each cross-reference and match the instruction to the people it is directed to.**

### Who James addressed

- b Those who were suffering
- c Those who were cheerful
- a Believers who had been oppressed by the rich (vv. 1-6)

### James' instruction

- a. Be patient until the coming of the Lord (v. 7)
- b. Pray (v. 13)
- c. Sing praises (v. 13)

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.

### Complete the Growth 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 of 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 in verses 2-6 by listing the consequences of their sin, then the sins themselves. **Next to each item in the list, write "S" for sin or "C" for consequence.**

- S You have heaped up treasure together in the last days.
- S You have lived on the earth in pleasure and self-indulgence.
- C Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten.
- S You have withheld the pay of your workers by fraud.
- C Your gold and silver have corroded.
- S You have fattened your hearts as in a day of slaughter.
- C Rust of your gold and silver will be evidence against you and eat your flesh like fire.

### Read Deuteronomy 24:14-15 to learn about a law of God regarding how employers were to treat their poor employees. Read the summary and fill in the blanks.

This law refers to a poor and needy employee. The employer must give the worker his wages/hire daily before the sun sets because the worker sets/setteth/has set his heart/counts/is counting on/upon it. If the employer fails to obey this law, the employee may cry out against you/thee to/unto the Lord/to the Lord against you and the employer be guilty of sin.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 1

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-15

As James finishes out his epistle, he reinforces his first encouragement—to endure trials well.

Reread the study passage and mark the keywords **patient** and **endurance/steadfastness/patience/perseverance**.

**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**

Fill in the blanks to learn the imperatives James wrote to his readers in verses 7-12.

**imperative (noun)** According to Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Definition 1: something that is imperative...: such as 1a: command, order

1. Be patient until the coming of the Lord (v.7).
2. Be patient, strengthen/establish/stablish your hearts/stand firm (v. 8).
3. Do not complain/grumble/grudge against one another (v. 9).
4. Do not swear. But let your yes/yea be yes/yea and your no be no (v. 12).

Mark each statement true or false (T/F). If it is false, underline the incorrect words and write the correct words on the line to make the statement true.

T 5. Believers are to be patient because the Lord's coming is near (v. 8).  
\_\_\_\_\_

F 6. Believers must not grumble against each other so they will not be loving (v. 9).  
Judged

T 7. We consider those who endure to be blessed (v. 11). \_\_\_\_\_

Use the Thrive cipher to reveal who we learn each truth from.

The → f a r m e r waits patiently for the valuable crop, until the early and late rain (James 5:7).

The → p r o p h e t Abraham patiently endured to receive what was promised to him (Heb. 6:13-15).

→ J o b held fast to his integrity when Satan incited God against him to destroy him without cause (Job 2:3).

When believers are suffering, it is hard to wait for relief to come. However, keeping our eyes on the Lord enables us to persevere.



## BACKGROUND STUDY • History: Israel Becomes a Nation

Our study in the epistle of James opened with him referring to 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 the Christians' eternal hope was in the promise of Christ's return, they also patiently looked forward to the fulfillment of God's promise to eventually gather their people into their own land.



Nearly two thousand years after God's promise to them, Israel proclaimed its independence on May 14, 1948. The United States recognized the authority of this new state on the day of its proclamation, becoming the first nation to recognize Israel's independence. This milestone of freedom was cause for great joy for the Israelites as well as Christians around the world, many 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 today's believers, we have the privilege of looking 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 our compassionate God has planned. He is faithful!

The following references contain what many scholars believe are prophecies of Israel's rebirth as a nation. **Read each cross-reference and match it to the correct prophecy.**

### Prophecy

- c   God promised to gather His people from the nations and bring them to their own land.
- b   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.
- a   The nation of Israel would be born in one day.

### Cross-reference

- a. Isaiah 66:8-10
- b. Jeremiah 16:14-15
- c. Ezekiel 36:24



# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 2

Read & Observe | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-15

🔑 Read James 5:13-20 and mark the keywords **pray** and **praises/praise/psalms/songs of praise**. Mark all verbs 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.

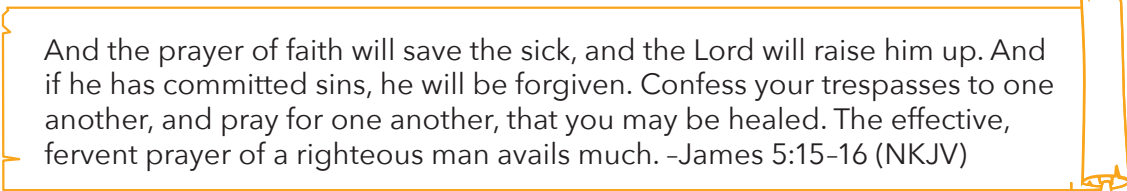
James continues imperatives for how the suffering saints should live as they wait for the Lord's coming. **Complete the commands found in James 5:13-20 by using the word bank.**

call      confess      pray      anoint      sing

1. Let the afflicted person   **pray**  .
2. Let the cheerful person   **sing**   songs of praise.
3. Let the sick person   **call**   for the elders, and let them pray over him and   **anoint**   him with oil.
4. Let the believers   **confess**   their sins to each other and pray for each other.

**Read the scripture and answer the following questions.**

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)



5. What kind of prayer does James describe? **Prayer of faith**
6. What are the results of this prayer?
  - a. The Lord will   **raise**   up the sick.
  - b. If he has committed sins, he will be   **forgiven**  .
7. What kind of person prays this prayer? **A righteous man**

James 5:17-18 presents Elijah as a role model for prayer. **Read 1 Kings 17:1, 18:36-37; 41-45 that bear out Elijah's prayer life. Then number the statements sequentially.**

- 5**   Elijah sent his servant to go look toward the sea.
- 2**   Elijah prayed that it would be known that the Lord was God in Israel.
- 7**   The rains poured down.
- 4**   Elijah went to Mount Carmel to pray with his face between his knees.
- 1**   Elijah announced to Ahab that there would be no rain for years.
- 6**   On the seventh trip to the sea, the servant saw a cloud the size of a man's fist.
- 3**   Elijah sent word to Ahab that heavy rain was coming.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 7, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: James 5:7-11

🔑 Read James 5:1-20 and mark the keyword **outcome/purpose/end/what the Lord finally brought about**.

Knowing our compassionate 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. Write the letter of the correct cross-reference next to each statement.**

- a. Romans 8:16-18      b. Romans 8:22-23, 28-29
- c. Hebrews 12:10-11      d. 1 Peter 1:6-7

- d   1. Trials come so that our tested faith can result in praise, honor, and glory when Christ is revealed.
- c   2. God's chastening is for our good; it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness.
- b   3. God works all things for good for those called according to His purpose, to be conformed to His Son's image.
- a   4. We suffer with Christ to be glorified with Him.

## TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN JAMES

In the study passage, the author talks about five behaviors— withholding wages, not grumbling, not swearing, praying, and having patience. Jesus also mentioned each of these topics. **Read the verses from the Scripture bank and match them to the "Teaching of Jesus."**

- James 5:8      James 5:9      James 5:16

Tenet of James	Teaching of Jesus
James 5:16	"Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them" (Mark 11:24 NKJV).
James 5:9	"'Stop grumbling among yourselves,' Jesus answered" (John 6:43 NIV).
James 5:8	"But the one who endures to the end will be saved" (Matt. 10:22b ESV).



The book of Proverbs, Jesus, and James all mention a prominent topic important to our spiritual life. **Reread James 5:16. Then mark the cross-reference from Proverbs that teaches the same truth.**

- Proverbs 21:13       Proverbs 15:29b       Proverbs 15:8



# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 3

Interpret | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-15

- 🔍 Reread James 5:1-20 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. Although 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

Read Psalm 103:20-21 and answer the questions.

- How are the members of the heavenly armies described in verse 20? **AWV. Mighty ones, those who excel in strength**
- What do the heavenly armies do in verse 21? **AWV. His will**

To learn more about the Lord of Armies and His defense of the afflicted, read each cross-reference and match it to the statement.

**Statement**

- b**   The Lord of Armies will come down to fight for Mount Zion.
- d**   The Lord of Armies will protect the prisoners of hope.
- a**   The Lord works righteousness and judgment for all the oppressed.
- c**   The Lord of Armies has delivered the needy from the hand of evildoers.

**Cross-reference**

- a. Psalm 103:6
- b. Isaiah 31:4-5
- c. Jeremiah 20:11-13
- d. Zechariah 9:12, 15

As New Testament believers, James' audience found their hope in the second coming of Christ. Revelation 19:11-16 paints a picture of the Lord of Armies' final rescue. **Read this passage and answer the questions.**

- What is the One on the white horse called? **Faithful and True**
- How does He judge and wage war? **In righteousness/justice**
- Who follows Him on white horses? **The armies of heaven**
- What name is written on His robe and on His thigh? **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 (James 1:4). Patient prayerfulness helps us wait for the outcome of our trials and demonstrates authentic faith. **Circle the correct words to learn more about what this passage teaches.**

1. We are eagerly waiting for the (healing, **redemption**) of our bodies (v. 23).
2. In this (**hope**) faith) we have been saved.
3. If we hope for what we don't see, we will wait for it with (expectation, **patience**).
4. We need His help because we don't know what we should (work, **pray**) for as we ought (v. 26).
5. The Spirit intercedes for us with (joy, **groanings**) and according to the (**will**) pleasure) of God (vv. 26-27).
6. We have been called according to His (love, **purpose**).

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.** This cryptogram reveals how Jesus set an example for us. Six letters in the alphabet have been assigned a random number. **As you solve each letter in the puzzle, write its corresponding number 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
3	23	-	8	12	1	24	25	16	20	-	15	17	4	18	19	-	22	14	26	7	2	-	-	13	-

**J E S U S     D I D     N O T     L O S E     H E A R T**  
 20 12 14 7 14     8 16 8     4 18 26     15 18 14 12     25 12 3 22 26

**B U T     P E R S E V E R E D     B Y     G O I N G**  
 23 7 26     19 12 22 14 12 2 12 22 12 8     23 13     24 18 16 4 24

**T O     H I S     F A T H E R     T H R E E     T I M E S.**  
 26 18     25 16 14     1 3 26 25 12 22     26 25 22 12 12     26 16 17 12 14

Write your theme for Unit 7.





# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 4

Apply | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-15

## 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 powerful testimony. Before reading the study passage, learn its context by reading the cross-references and matching them to the statements about Job’s experience.

### Events of Job’s experience

- c   Job desired God to answer him and desired to give God an account of all his steps.
- d   God answered Job from the whirlwind; Job admitted his insignificance.
- b   Job responded to testing by worshiping.
- a   God granted Satan permission to test Job.

### Cross-reference

- a. Job 1:8-9, 11-12
- b. Job 1:20-21
- c. Job 31:35-37
- d. Job 38:1-3; 40:1-8

At the end of his trial, Job worshiped again. **Read Job 42:1-17. Fill in the blanks to complete the statements of what Job learned about God and about himself.**

### Job’s Statement about God:

I know that you can do all things/every thing, 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 wonderful for me to know. I have heard of You by the ear/ears, but now my eye sees You. Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes (vv. 3, 5-6).

**Mark each statement true or false (T/F). If it is false, underline the incorrect words and write the correct words on the line to make the statement true.**

- F   God restored Job’s fortunes after he corrected his friends (v.10). Prayed for
- F   God gave Job triple what he previously had (v. 10). Double
- T   The Lord blessed Job’s latter end more than his beginning (v. 12a). \_\_\_\_\_

Job had heard of God; but eventually, he saw who God was. His revelation of God resulted in repentance.

In light of James 5:11, what attributes of God might Job have seen in this revelation?

**Unscramble the letters to reveal the answers.**

- **poCsinsmao** Compassion
- **ceyMr** Mercy

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!





# NAVIGATE • UNIT 7, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: James 5:7-11

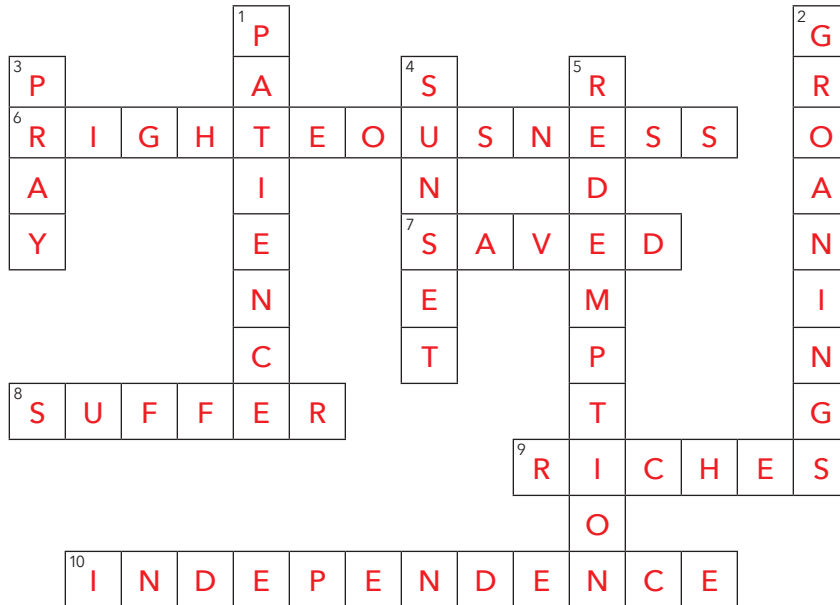
Complete the crossword puzzle to review this unit.

## ACROSS

- God's chastening yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness.
- The one who endures to the end will be saved.
- We suffer with Christ that we may be glorified with Him.
- One consequence of rich men's sins was that their riches were rotted.
- The United States was the first nation to recognize Israel's independence.

## DOWN

- If we hope for what we don't see, will we wait for it with patience.
- The Spirit intercedes for us with groanings.
- Those who were suffering were to pray.
- An instruction to the employer of the poor was that he was to pay the employee every day before sunset.
- We are waiting for the redemption of our bodies.



## KNOW GOD'S WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

This unit's study passage has challenged us to grow in patience and prayer as an act of worship. As we wait for Christ's coming, how can you thrive in worship this week?

**Reflect:** Do I view growing in patience and prayer as acts of worship?

Choose one activity to apply what you have learned in this unit.

- Choose a Bible passage to use as a daily prayer in the coming week.
- What situation in your life right now requires you to patiently wait? Let that situation be a testimony to others.

**Recite:** Memory passage, James 5:7-11



# EXPLORE • UNIT 7, LESSON 5

Review | Study Passage: James 5:1-20 | Memory Passage: Job 42:10-15

Review this unit before answering the questions.

### True or False

- T   1. The Greek word *proseuchomai* is translated "pray."
- T   2. The farmer waits patiently for the valuable crop, until the early and late rain.
- F   3. The Lord of Armies came down to fight on Mount Carmel.
- F   4. Job responded to testing in disappointment.
- T   5. Brothers are not to grumble against one another, so they will not be judged.

### Matching

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <u>  e  </u> 6. The One on the white horse is called Faithful and True.  | a. 1 Kings 18:1     |
| <u>  d  </u> 7. Let the cheerful person sing songs of praise.  | b. Job 2:3          |
| <u>  c  </u> 8. The Judge is standing at the door.   | c. James 5:9        |
| <u>  a  </u> 9. God promised to send rain if Elijah presented himself to Ahab.                                   | d. James 5:13       |
| <u>  b  </u> 10. Job held fast to his integrity when Satan incited God against him to destroy him without cause. | e. Revelation 19:11 |

### Unscramble the Letters

- 11. A **teihrogsu**   righteous   man prays the prayer of faith.
- 12. Do not **rewsa**   swear  .
- 13. Elijah sent his servant to look toward the sea **veesn**   seven   times.
- 14. The Lord of Armies will protect the **nosesrpir**   prisoners   of hope.
- 15. The **smeira**   armies   of heaven follow Him who sits on the white horse.

### 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).

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

Write down the name of someone to whom you can show compassion or mercy. \_\_\_\_\_

**Recite:** Memory passage, Job 42:10-15





## 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 Discovery Journal *Thrive* study.**

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*. **Write out statements of truth that you believe.** 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>
•
•
•
<b>Repent</b>
•
•
•
<b>Ask</b>
•
•
•
<b>Yield</b>
•
•
•



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 8, LESSON 1

## Navigate Review | Unit 1, Thrive in Tests

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 fun have with the review.**

### True or False

- T   1. James wrote his epistle to scattered Jewish believers.
- F   2. The dispersion of the Jews is also known as the emigration.
- F   3. There is one Greek word used in James 1 for both "trials" and "tempted."
- T   4. The first chapter of James has two main sections.
- T   5. Another word for the Jewish dispersion is "diaspora."

### Short Answer

- 6. According to 1 John 4:18, what does mature love not have? **Fear**
- 7. In Psalm 137:1-4, where were the Jews in exile? **Babylon**
- 8. What did Jesus endure because of the joy set before Him? **The cross**
- 9. What did Jesus learn through His suffering? **Obedience**
- 10. According to James 1:5, what are we to ask God for if we lack it? **Wisdom**

### Teachings of Jesus in James

- 11. Unit 1
  - a. When people revile us and persecute us, what are we to do? **Rejoice and be glad/ exceedingly glad**
  - b. What will happen to the one who trusts in his riches? **He will fall.**

### Discovery Destination

- 12. Unit 1: Maturity: Grow in Perseverance
  - a. Jesus endured the   **cross**  .
  - b. Jesus persevered in suffering because He wanted His Father to be   **glorified**  .



Recite your *Navigate* memory passage from Unit 1, James 1:2-4.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 8, LESSON 1

Explore Review | Unit 1, Thrive in Tests

## Multiple Choice

1. When you are slandered and falsely accused, have a good \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Testimony     Attitude     Conscience     Lawyer
2. One reason God tests us is to see if we will walk in His \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Instruction     Love     Plan     Provision
3. God is \_\_\_\_\_ to not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear.  
 Faithful     Merciful     Patient     Loving
4. When you are attacked by the devil, \_\_\_\_\_ him.  
 Rebuke     Ridicule     Ignore     Resist
5. A prudent man sees evil and \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Continues on     Hides himself     Prays     Ignores it

## Fill in the Blank

6. Sin results in death.
7. Proverbs 4:23 tells us to watch/keep/guard our heart.
8. At the throne of grace, we find mercy and grace.
9. Sarah considered Him faithful who had promised.
10. The Greek word *teleios* is translated perfect/mature.

## Unscramble the Letters

11. Only **tmtptnaeios** temptations that are common to mankind have overtaken you.
12. If you suffer as a Christian, **figroyl** glorify God.
13. Jesus was **deeptmt** tempted as a human, as we are.
14. If you suffer for doing right, **teyiatlpn** patiently endure it.
15. God's gifts from above are **dogo** good and **tpcefer** perfect.

## People of Faith

16. Hall of Faith
  - a. Although the people listed in Hebrews 11 did not receive the promise, they were living by faith when they died.
  - b. The people listed in Hebrews 11 did not receive the promise because the Lord had provided something better for us.



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. Early church services included foot washing.
- T 2. Glory, grace, and truth are three attributes that the living Word displays to us.
- T 3. The human author of the epistle of James was a half-brother of Jesus.
- F 4. Offerings received in the early church were given to the church leader.

## Matching

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <u>d</u> 5. James was a pillar in the church in Jerusalem.   | a. Psalm 12:6          |
| <u>a</u> 6. God's Word is like purified silver.              | b. Proverbs 22:2       |
| <u>b</u> 7. The Lord is Maker of both the rich and the poor. | c. 1 Corinthians 14:26 |
| <u>c</u> 8. Early church services included doctrine.         | d. Galatians 2:9       |

## Short Answer

- 9. How did the churches in Macedonia and Achaia help the poor in Jerusalem? **AWV. By giving them an offering**
- 10. What does the royal law command? **You/thou shall/shalt love your/thy neighbor as yourself/thyself.**
- 11. What will God give every person who does good? **Glory, honor and peace**
- 12. What group of people were the first believers? **Jews**

## Teachings of Jesus in James

- 13. Unit 2
  - a. James 1:27 refers to caring for (beggars, **widows**).
  - b. In John 5:39, Jesus said, "The Scriptures (**testify**) prophesy) about Me."
- 14. Unit 3
  - a. The second commandment that Jesus stated in Mark 12:31 is what James called the (**royal**) basic) law.
  - b. Whoever keeps the whole Law, but breaks it in one point is (**guilty of**) ignoring) all of it.

## Discovery Destination

- 15. Unit 2: Maturity: Grow as Hearers and Doers
  - a. We hide the Word of God in our heart.
  - b. We are to receive the Word of God **in humility/with meekness/humbly** (James 1:21).
- 16. Unit 3: Maturity: Grow in Love
  - a. We are to serve one another in love.
  - b. First Corinthians 13 says that love rejoices with the truth.



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

- The Word of God is very near you—in your \_\_\_\_\_ so that you can do it.  
 Mouth      Heart      Memory      Mind
- The \_\_\_\_\_ received God's Word as it is—the Word of God, not of men.  
 Thessalonians      Bereans      Samaritans      Jews
- The Greek word *agapaō* is a/an \_\_\_\_\_ instead of a feeling.  
 Decision      Attitude      Idea      Plan
- Continue in the Word by \_\_\_\_\_ God's statutes.  
 Reading      Loving      Speaking about      Delighting in
- If we show partiality, \_\_\_\_\_ convicts us as transgressors.  
 God      The law      Our conscience      Satan

## Matching

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <u>  c  </u> 6. The Samaritans paid attention to what Philip preached to them. | a. Obadiah 1:1, 10 |
| <u>  e  </u> 7. Continue in the Word of God because it endures forever.        | b. Matthew 7:2     |
| <u>  d  </u> 8. The pleasures of sin are temporary.                            | c. Acts 8:4-6      |
| <u>  b  </u> 9. We will be judged in the same way we judge others.             | d. Hebrews 11:25   |
| <u>  a  </u> 10. The people of Edom did violence against their brother Jacob.  | e. 1 Peter 1:24-25 |

## Fill in the Blanks

- We are to receive the word implanted/planted/implanted/engrafted word.
- Partiality judges by outward appearance.
- In Galatians 3:24 the law is compared to a guardian/schoolmaster/tutor.
- The Greek word *eleos* is translated "mercy."
- The product of continuing in the Word is fruit.

## People of Faith

- Unit 2: Moses
  - Moses and his parents were able to avoid (punishment, fear) (Heb. 11:23, 27).
  - By faith Moses saw Him who is (invisible) just).
- Unit 3: Gideon
  - God told Gideon to take his father's bull and pull down the altar of (Chemosh, Baal).
  - The name of the altar Gideon built means the Lord is (peace, present).



Recite your *Explore* memory passages from Units 2 & 3, Hebrews 11:24-26 and Judges 6:11-14.



# NAVIGATE • UNIT 8, LESSON 3

Navigate Review | Unit 4 & Unit 5, Thrive in Our Works and Thrive in Our Words

## True or False

- T   1. The Roman Empire stretched from Ireland to Egypt.
- F   2. The Greek word for mercy is *ergon*.
- T   3. Believers must work out their own salvation with fear and trembling.
- T   4. Central to Jewish academics was the Law of Moses.
- F   5. The sons of David were taught in music.

## Unscramble the Letters

- 6. Jesus told His followers to pay to **arCeas**   Caesar   what was Caesar's.
- 7. We are His **pwiohrsnmak**   workmanship  , created in Christ Jesus for good works.
- 8. In James 2:17, faith without works is described as **ddae**   dead  .
- 9. A **frecpet**   perfect   man is one who does not offend in what he says.
- 10. If someone says he loves God but hates his brother, he is a **rial**   liar  .

## Fill in the Blank

- 11. Jewish children learned the   Shema  , the prayer from Deuteronomy 6:4-9.
- 12. Isaiah said the Spirit of the Lord would   rest   on Jesus.
- 13. Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in   favor   with God and man (Luke 2:52).
- 14. The Word of God is inspired and beneficial so that the man of God may be   equipped/thoroughly furnished   for every good work.
- 15. The early church prospered in spite of   persecution  .

## Teachings of Jesus in James

- 16. Unit 4
  - a. In John 15:15, Jesus told His disciples that he called them (helpers, **friends**).
  - b. James says that even the (**demons** children) believe there is one God.
- 17. Unit 5
  - a. Those who are merciful will receive (a reward, **mercy**).
  - b. Both James 3:2 and Proverbs 21:23 deal with what we (**say**) do).

## Discovery Destination

- 18. Unit 4: Maturity: Grow in Obedience
  - a. (Salvation, **Sanctification**) is "the process or result of God's continuing work in Christian believers through the power of the Holy Spirit."
  - b. God's work in believers is for His good (**pleasure**, plan).
- 19. Unit 5: Maturity: Grow in Wisdom
  - a. The (**fear** instruction) of the Lord, that is wisdom.
  - b. The Lord stores up sound wisdom and success for the (faithful, **righteous**).



Recite your *Navigate* memory passages from Units 4 & 5, James 2:15-18 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

- Faith without works is \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Weak     Genuine     Dead     Unnoticeable
- James' readers had dishonored the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Orphans     Poor     Widows     Elderly
- The \_\_\_\_\_ boasts great things.  
 Proud man     Liar     Evil man     Tongue
- The Greek word *sophia* means \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Wisdom     Faith     Works     Patient
- A tree is known by its \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Bark     Leaves     Fruit     Fragrance

## Short Answer

- What cannot dwell in someone who closes his heart to a brother in need? **The love of God**
- According to Galatians 2:16, what cannot justify a person? **Works of the law**
- What did Jesus rebuke and cause to come out of a man? **An unclean/impure spirit**
- What three small things did James compare the tongue to in James 3:3-5? **AWV. A bit in a horse's mouth, a rudder/helm of a ship, a small fire**
- What does Matthew 25:46 call people who care for the hungry? **Righteous**

## Unscramble the Letters

- raAmhba** \_\_\_\_\_ **Abraham** \_\_\_\_\_ is given as an example of someone who was justified by works and not by faith alone.
- When Abraham believed God, it was counted to him as **gitsuherosesn** \_\_\_\_\_ **righteousness** \_\_\_\_\_.
- On the day of judgment we will be accountable for every careless **rowd** \_\_\_\_\_ **word** \_\_\_\_\_ we have spoken.
- The fruit of righteousness is sown by those who make **escape** \_\_\_\_\_ **peace** \_\_\_\_\_.
- The mouth speaks from the abundance of the **rtaeh** \_\_\_\_\_ **heart** \_\_\_\_\_.

## People of Faith

- Unit 4: Rahab
  - Rahab hid (the spies from Israel) her family) from the men sent by the King of Jericho.
  - Rahab was the mother of (Boaz/Booz, Salma/Salmon), who was a direct ancestor of Jesus Christ.
- Unit 5: Abigail
  - Abigail recognized that at sometime in the future David would be (commander of the armies, ruler) of Israel.
  - David (thanked, blessed) the Lord God of Israel and Abigail.



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

## True or False

- F   1. We should learn how to serve two masters.
- T   2. All the priests in Israel were from the tribe of Levi.
- F   3. The double-minded are told to humble their hearts.
- T   4. Israel will continue to experience Gentile oppression until Christ's return.
- T   5. God's chastening is for our good; it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness.

## Fill in the Blank

- 6. The first six verses of James 5 address   rich   people.
- 7.   Friendship   with the world is enmity with God.
- 8.   Nehemiah   was cupbearer to the king.
- 9.   Israel   proclaimed its independence on May 14, 1948.
- 10. According to James, the rich man's   gold   and   silver   had been corroded.

## Short Answer

- 11. What comes so our tested faith can result in praise, honor, and glory? **Trials/temptations**
- 12. How is the double-minded man described in James 1:8? **Unstable**
- 13. What was the inheritance of the Levites and priests? **The Lord**
- 14. Under the law, when was an employer to pay his poor and needy employee? **AWV. Every day before sunset**
- 15. If we draw near to God, what will He do? **AWV. He will draw near to us.**

## Teachings of Jesus in James

- 16. Unit 6
  - a. The **repu**   pure   in heart will see God.
  - b. To boast in your arrogance is **ilve**   evil  .
- 17. Unit 7
  - a. The Lord hears the prayer of the **hretsiugo**   righteous   (Proverbs 15:29b).
  - b. "Jesus answered, 'Stop **gglnrubmi**   grumbling   among yourselves'" (John 6:43).

## Discovery Destination

- 18. Unit 6: Maturity: Grow with Purpose
  - a. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 reminds us to not run (too slowly,   aimlessly  ).
  - b. According to Luke 9:62, those who look back are not fit for God's (blessings,   kingdom  ).
- 19. Unit 7: Maturity: Grow in Patience and Prayer
  - a. We are eagerly waiting for the (healing,   redemption  ) of our bodies.
  - b. If we hope for what we don't see, we will wait for it with (expectation,   patience  ).



Recite your *Navigate* memory passages from Units 6 & 7, James 4:7-10 and James 5:7-11.



# EXPLORE • UNIT 8, LESSON 4

Explore Review | Unit 6 & Unit 7, Thrive in Our Walk and Thrive in Worship

## Fill in the Blank

1. Resist the devil, and he will flee from us.
2. Part of the definition of repentance is "a change of mind."
3. God said to return to Him because He is gracious (Joel 2:13).
4. At the second coming of Christ, the One on the white horse is called Faithful and True.
5. Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other.

## Matching

- |          |   |                   |
|----------|---|-------------------|
| <u>d</u> | 6. The desires of the flesh and of the Spirit are opposed to each other.                            | a. 1 Kings 18:44  |
| <u>e</u> | 7. The farmer waits patiently for the valuable crop, until the early and late rain.                 | b. Job 2:3        |
| <u>c</u> | 8. When people repent, they must turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance.               | c. Acts 26:20     |
| <u>a</u> | 9. Elijah sent word to Ahab that heavy rain was coming.   | d. Galatians 5:17 |
| <u>b</u> | 10. Job held fast to his integrity when Satan incited God against him to destroy him without cause. | e. James 5:7      |

## Short Answer

11. What is the English translation of the Greek word *tapeinoō*? **Humble**
12. When we are repentant over our own sin, we are less likely to do what? **Judge others**
13. What kind of prayer does James describe in James 5:15? **Prayer of/offered in faith**
14. According to Isaiah 31:4-5, who will the Lord of armies fight for? **Mount Zion**
15. According to James 5:11, we consider those blessed who do what? **Endure/remain steadfast/persevere**

## People of Faith

16. Unit 6: Elijah
  - a. Elijah was the prophet during the reign of **haAb** Ahab.
  - b. The prophets of **aBla** Baal were slain at the Brook Kishon.
17. Unit 7: Job
  - a. God restored Job's fortunes after he **yadpre** prayed for his friends.
  - b. After God talked to Job, Job **tedrenpe** repented in dust and ashes.



Recite your *Explore* memory passages from Units 6 & 7, 1 Kings 18:36-39 and Job 42:10-15.



# 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
- h 2. tempted
- j 3. personal favoritism/partiality/respect of persons/  
favoritism
- i 4. faith
- d 5. works/deeds
- f 6. obeyed
- c 7. work/works/worketh
- e 8. tongue
- b 9. double-minded
- a 10. arrogance/boastings/arrogant schemes

### Transliterations

- a. *alazoneia*
- b. *dipsychos*
- c. *energeō*
- d. *ergon*
- e. *glōssa*
- f. *hypakouō*
- g. *peirasmos*
- h. *peirazō*
- i. *pistis*
- j. *prosōpolēmpsia*

## NAVIGATE DEFINITIONS REVIEW

Define these terms from the *Thrive* study.

1. Dispersion (i.e. diaspora): (Gr. "a scattering") Term for Jews living outside Palestine after the Babylonian exile (586 B.C.) and at other times.
2. Theme: a subject or topic of discourse
3. Anger/wrath: the strongest of all passions....Suggests a more settled or abiding condition of mind, frequently with a view to taking revenge
4. 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
- m   2. perfect/mature
- i   3. carried/lured/drawn/dragged away
- v   4. firstfruits
- j   5. test/prove
- b   6. gained approval/received their commendation/  
obtained a good report/testimony/were commended
- s   7. humility/meekness/humbly
- q   8. implanted/engrafted/planted
- k   9. looks/beholding/observing
- x   10. has looked/looks/looketh
- n   11. has continued/perseveres/continueth/continues
- d   12. love
- u   13. guilty
- a   14. mercy
- c   15. justified/considered righteous
- r   16. behavior/conduct/conversation/life
- e   17. wisdom
- l   18. pleasures/passions/lusts/desires
- f   19. grace
- g   20. humble
- p   21. patient
- o   22. pray
- w   23. Lord
- h   24. armies/hosts/Sabaoth/Almighty

#### Transliterations

- a. *eleos*
- b. *martyreō*
- c. *dikaioō*
- d. *agapaō*
- e. *sophia*
- f. *charis*
- g. *tapeinoō*
- h. *sabaōth*
- i. *exelkō*
- j. *nāsâ*
- k. *katanoeō*
- l. *hēdonē*
- m. *teleios*
- n. *paramenō*
- o. *proseuchomai*
- p. *makrothymeō*
- q. *emphytos*
- r. *anastrophē*
- s. *prautēs*
- t. *hypomonē*
- u. *enochos*
- v. *aparchē*
- w. *kyrios*
- x. *parakypō*

## 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. 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**
4. Metaphor: **a figure of speech in which a word or phrase literally denoting one kind of object or idea is used in place of another to suggest a likeness or analogy between them**
5. Analogy: **a comparison of two otherwise unlike things based on resemblance of a particular aspect**
6. Repentance: **sorrow or deep contrition for sin...accompanied and followed by amendment of life. Repentance is a change of mind.**
7. Imperative (noun) 1: **something that is imperative...: such as 1a: command, order**

## 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

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