

**JAMES – LESSON 2**  
**REAL FAITH IS NOT SHALLOW OR EMPTY**  
**CHAPTER 1: 13 – 27**

**\*KEY VERSE: JAMES 1: 22**

**A. INTRODUCTION**

**\*FAITH WITHOUT WORKS ARE DEAD!**

**\*FAITH MUST WORK!**

**\*FAITH MUST PRODUCE!**

**\*FAITH MUST BE VISIBLE!**

**\*VERBAL FAITH IS NOT ENOUGH!**

**\*MENTAL FAITH IS INSUFFICIENT!**

**\*FAITH MUST BE THERE!**

**\*FAITH MUST INSPIRE ACTION!**

**\*TRUE FAITH MUST MANIFEST ITSELF IN WORKS OF FAITH!**

**\*FAITH ENDURES TRIALS!**

**\*A STRONG FAITH WILL FACE THEM HEAD ON AND DEVELOP ENDURANCE!**

**\*FAITH UNDERSTANDS TEMPTATIONS!**

**\*FAITH KEEPS US FROM SIN!**

**\*FAITH OBEYS THE WORD!**

**\*FAITH PRODUCES DOERS!**

**\*FAITH HARBORS NO PREJUDICE!**

**\*FAITH DISPLAYS ITSELF IN WORKS!**

**\*FAITH CONTROLS THE TONGUE!**

**\*FAITH CAN DO IT!**

**\*FAITH ACTS WISELY!**

**\*FAITH GIVES US THE ABILITY TO CHOOSE WISDOM THAT IS HEAVENLY!**

**\*FAITH PRODUCES SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD AND SUBMISSION TO GOD!**

**\*FAITH PROVIDES US WITH ABILITY TO RESIST THE DEVIL!**

**\*FAITH WAITS PATIENTLY FOR COMING OF THE LORD!**

**\*FAITH STIFLES COMPLAINING!**

**a. JAMES 1: 13 – 27 IS A VERY RICH PORTION OF SCRIPTURE. THESE SCRIPTURES CONTAINS MANY THEMES THAT WILL DEVELOPED THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE EPISTLE. THERE IS A LOT TO COMPREHEND.**

## **B. DISCOVER**

**a. OUR MAIN TASK HERE IS TO DIS-COVER WHAT THE TEXT SAYS AND NOT TO LEAP AHEAD AND TRY TO INTERPRET WHAT THE TEXT MEANS.**

**b. CAREFULLY READ THE TEXT, BECOME THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH WHAT JAMES SAYS.**

**\*QUESTION: WHY WOULD SOME OF JAMES RECIPIENT CLAIM THAT GOD WAS TEMPTING THEM? 1: 13**

**\*JAMES 1: 16**

**c. THE PHRASE “DON’T BE CONCEIVED” IS LITERALLY “STOP BEING DECEIVED” RATHER THAN DON’T START TO BE DECEIVED.**

**\*QUESTION: WHAT DOES 1: 17 TELL YOU ABOUT GODS CHARACTER?**

## **C. DISCERN**

**\*PSALM 119: 34**

**a. THE PSALMIST REFLECTS TWO KEY WORDS:**

- 1. UNDERSTANDING**
- 2. OBEDIENCE**

**b. OUR PRAYERS MUST BE THAT WHEN YOU PRAY TO UNDERSTAND THE MESSAGE OF JAMES, SO THAT YOU MIGHT OBEY THE MESSAGE OF JAMES.**

**c. HERE ARE SOME KEY AREAS THAT YOU MIGHT CONSIDER IN JAMES 1: 13 – 27**

**1. WORDS THAT CONVEY THE IDEA OF BEING TEMPTED AND TEMPTATION?**

**2. ELEMENTS OF PROGRESSION OR DEVELOPMENT?**

**3. IMAGES OF BIRTH AND DEATH?**

**4. ANYTHING RELATED TO SPEAKING OR TALKING?**

**5. IDEAS OF BEING SHALLOW OR SUPERFICIAL?**

**\*JAMES 1: 15 – SIN BRINGS FORTH DEATH!**

**\*ROMANS 6: 23**

**\*QUESTION: DOES THIS REFLECT THE THEOLOGICAL PRINCIPLE SET FORTH IN JAMES 1:15?**

**\*JAMES 1: 18 – BORN OF GOD!**

**\*WHAT OTHER WRITERS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT SPEAKS OF BEING BORN AGAIN?**

**\*JAMES 1:22**

**a. TO EXPERIENCE TRUE SPIRITUAL GROWTH IN OUR LIVES, WE MUST GRANT GOD PERMISSION TO ENTER OUR HEARTS AND MAKE THE NECESSARY CHANGES.**

**b. THE PSALMIST UNDERSTOOD THIS WHEN HE PRAYED**

**\*PSALM 139: 23**

**\*SEARCH YOUR HEARTS ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS!**

**1. HAVE I BLAMED GOD FOR DEEP HURTS IN MY LIFE? IF SO, WHAT DOES THIS SAY ABOUT HOW I VIEW GOD? JAMES 1: 13 – 18**

**2. DOES MY SPEECH REFLECT THE CHARACTER AND HEART OF GOD JAMES 1: 26**

**3. ARE THERE “SHALLOW” AREAS IN MY FAITH? DO I AT TIMES JUST HEAR THE WORD AND QUICKLY GO ON MY WAY WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING THE DEEP CLAIMS GOD HAS PLACED UPON MY LIFE? (JAMES 1: 22 – 23)**

**C. DISCIPLE**

**a. THE GOSPELS ARE PUNCTUATED WITH SOME “HARD SAYINGS OF JESUS”**

**\*MARK 8: 34**

**b. AT THE TIME OF JESUS, THE WORDS “TAKE UP ONE’S CROSS” WAS THE BATTLE CRY OF A PARTICULARLY MILITANT GROUP CALLED THE “ZEALOTS”. WHAT THEY MEANT BY SAYING THIS IS THAT IF YOU WANT TO JOIN OUR GROUP. YOU WILL PROBABLY END UP BEING CRUCIFIED. JESUS IS NOT CALLING US TO VIOLENCE, BUT HE IS CALLING US TO RADICAL DISCIPLESHIP. HE IS CALLING US TO ENGAGE IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD, REGARDLESS OF THE COST.**

**\*DISCIPLESHIP IS A RADICAL CALL TO ACTION!**

**\*WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO IN LIGHT OF JAMES 1: 13 – 27**

**c. JAMES IS CALLING US, WITH THE HELP OF GOD TO CHANGE. HE IS CHALLENGING US TO A LIFE OF PERSONAL HOLINESS. SO IN THE LIGHT OF THE PROPHETIC WORD OF JAMES, IT IS TIME TO MAKE A PERSONAL COVENANT WITH THE WORD.**

**d. THE FOLLOWING POINTS WILL HELP YOU TO HEAR WHAT JAMES SAYS, BUT ALSO TO DO WHAT HE SAYS**

**e. MY PERSONAL COVENANT WITH JAMES 1: 13 – 27 THIS WEEK IS TO:**

**1. STOP BLAMING GOD FOR THE TEMPTATION AND FAILURES THAT COME INTO MY LIFE**

**2. CONFESS THAT EVERY GOOD AND PRAISEWORTHY THING COMES FROM THE FATHER WHO IS ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE AND UNCOMPROMISING IN HIS CHARACTER AND VALUES**

**3. FILTER MY SPEECH THROUGH THE MIND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**4. REJECT ANY SHALLOW OR SUPERFICIAL VERSION OF THE FAITH**

**5. TAKE CONCRETE AND OBSERVABLE STEPS TO ACTUALLY HELP THOSE WHO ARE LESS FORTUNATE THAN ME**

**f. THE MESSAGE OF JAMES IS SO RELEVANT TO THE CHURCH TODAY**

**\*HOW CAN I GET THE FAITH OF MY HEAD TO POSITIVELY AFFECT THE FAITH OF MY HEART, AND THEN TO GO ON TO MOVE MY HANDS AND FEET TO THE WILL OF GOD?**

**\*MATTHEW 28: 19 – 20**

**\*THIS IS HOW YOU CAN USE THIS DISCIPLE STEP TO INFLUENCE OTHERS FOR GOD**

**NEXT WEEK**

**LESSON 3**

**REAL FAITH KEEPS THE PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY**

