

“The Word According To Jim: Walking The Talk”
James 1:19-25 & 3:13-4:10
“Listening & Doing = Wisdom & Submission”

A Prayer For A Fresh Start:

(Since everyday is a new beginning, consider/pray this prayer from Larry Crabb’s book “*The PAPA Prayer.*”)
P = Present yourself to God without pretense. Be a real person in the relationship. Tell Him whatever is going on inside you that you can identify. **A = Attend to how you’re thinking of God.** Ask yourself, “How am I experiencing God right now?” Is He a vending machine, frowning father, distant, cold force or your gloriously strong but intimate Papa? **P = Purge yourself of anything blocking your relationship with God.** Put into words whatever makes you uncomfortable or embarrassed when you’re real in your relationship with Him. How are you thinking more about yourself and your satisfaction than about anyone else, including God and His pleasure? **A = Approach God as the “first thing” in your life, as your most valuable treasure, the Person you most want to know.** Admit that other people, things and situations really do matter more to you right now, but you long to want God so much that every other good thing in your life becomes a “second thing” desire.”

Prep For Opening & Hearing & Responding To God’s Word – The Bible:

(Questions from Campus Crusade for Christ’s “*Ten Basic Steps Toward Christian Maturity*”)

What is the principle of the reading and leading lesson of the reading? What is the key verse (memorize it)? Who are the principle characters? What does the passage(s) teach about God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit? Is there any example for me to follow? Is there an error for me to avoid? Is there a duty for me to perform out of devotion to Christ or a call for me to respond to? Is there any promise for me to claim? Is there a prayer for me to echo?

“Bible In One Year” Readings = January 11-18

Genesis 24:52-38:30; Matthew 8:18-12:45; Psalm 10:15-16:11; Proverbs 3:7-32

“1 Chapter from the Bible book of Proverbs each day”

Readings Similar to James 1:19-25 & 3:13-4:10

(Read a passage or two a day, or consider a passage at each meal, & apply it to your life.)

*Psalm 1:1-3; 1John 1:8-2:2; John 3:16; Hebrews 4:12 & 511- 6:12; 1Peter 2:1-2;
Luke 8:4-15 & 8:32-34; 2Corinthians 3:18 & 6:14; Psalm 119:45 & 139:23-24;
Romans 3:18 & 7:22; John 17:17; Ephesians 5:15-17 & Psalm 51 & 90:12; Jeremiah 29:11;
Colossians 1:10-13 & 2:1-5 & 3:1-4:6; Proverbs 14:12; 1Corinthians 3:19 & 11:30
Matthew 17:5; Philippians 2:5-11 & Job 40:2 & 42:6 & Acts 5:1-11
Deuteronomy 18:10-12; Ecclesiastes (Solomon’s wisdom about life)*

Next Week Prep:

James 1:26-27 & 3:1-12 & 2:14-26

“How To Have A Pure, Valuable & Balanced Faith”

*Ephesians 4:29; Romans 1:32 & 12:2; Isaiah 1:11-17; Micah 6:8; 1John 3:16-18;
Matthew 25:34-46; Luke 10:25-37; John 17:15-26; 2Peter 3:14; 1John 2:15
1Corinthians 11:32; Genesis 13:10; 1Timothy 6:17; Ephesians 2:8-10;
Romans 4:3-5; Genesis 15:1-16 & 22:1-18; Joshua 2 & 3 & 6; 1Samuel 17;
Hebrews 11 & Romans 14:23b*

Small Group/Family Q's for Discussing & Journeying Together

James 1:19-25 & 3:13-4:10

“Listening & Doing = Wisdom & Submission

(Several Q's taken from “The Serendipity Bible For Groups”)

Give specific examples of how you and your family/small group are actively living out Rejoice's!: **4 Values** of Worship, Outreach, Prayer & Small Groups; our **Mission** that states - “by living out your commitment to Christ through a small group, we will reach out to those who are not experiencing God's love. Empowered by God's Word and Holy Spirit we will prayerfully follow Jesus' example;” and our **Vision** - “being a church that develops disciples and reaches out to the harvest.” Let's pray!

1. Which Best describes your temper: Short fuse with a big bomb; Short fuse with a sparkler; Long fuse with a little fizz; Long fuse with an A-bomb? Give examples...
2. From James 1:19-20, Illustrate what it means to be “quick to listen.” How does this produce “the righteous life that God desires?”
3. Think of one significant relationship you have. What would you change if you had applied verses 1:19-21?
4. What is the point of the “mirror image” (1:23-25)?
5. What aspect of James 1:19-15 will you put into practice today/this week? How so?
6. What best describes you when working with a team: a busy bee; a hibernating bear; a wise old owl; or a prowling lion?
7. In James 3:13-18, how do the 2 kinds of wisdom differ as to their source, symptoms, & results?
8. Where do you presently need “heaven's wisdom”? How is “earthly wisdom” presently hurting you? What/Who cultivates heavenly wisdom? How so?
9. Over what and with whom did you quarrel most when you were a kid? What is your usual response when your desires are frustrated?
10. In James 3:14-15 & 4:1-10, where does strife, quarreling, fighting come from?
See also James 1:14
11. How is James' 11-fold prescription, in 4:7-10, an effective antidote?
How is James' cure applicable to you as you struggle with the world's seduction(s)?
12. What purchase is highest on your “wish list” now? Why?
(Is God into budgeting & tithing? Is so, how does this sync “wish list” items?)
13. What is meant by: “adulterous people” and “friendship with the world” in 4:4 and submission to God (4:7-10)? How is the world trying to get you to be its “friend?”
How is that related to your faithfulness or faithlessness to God or “hatred”(4:4)?
14. In studying & applying what you have read in James, what are some outward signs of this inner submission to God? (Refer to Galatians 5:16-6:10)