

Winter 2023
Community Group Study
The Book of James

James

Week 2 (January 22): Asking for Wisdom - James 1:5-11

Introduction

- Open your time in prayer and read the passage together.
- Give everyone 15 minutes to answer the five following questions: Write your answers after each question.
- Take one question at a time and have people share their answers.
- End your time by sharing and praying for one another.

Passage:

⁵If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

⁹Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, ¹⁰and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. ¹¹For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.



-What stuck out to you in the passage? This might be something significant (facts, details), it might be the way something is talked about (as a simile, metaphor or image) or a literary device used (lists, repetition, contrasts, comparisons, quotes, etc.).



-Do you have any questions from the passage? Notice anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question the reader would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord.



-How do you see Jesus in the passage? How does this passage relate to the person, nature, character, or work of Jesus?



-How can I apply this passage to my life?



-Who is one person that could benefit from you sharing what you learned in this passage today?

Close your time by sharing prayer requests and praying.

Redeemer Small Group Study Guideline

Step 1 - Begin by praying together, asking God to speak through His word.

Step 2 - Read the scripture passage out loud. Each person reading one verse at a time. See the 8 week reading schedule above.

Step 3 - On our own for 10 minutes, go back over the passage while looking for these five things:



Light Bulb:

Something that “shines” from the passage-whatever impacts most, draws attention, or peaks your interest. (These could be facts, details, figures of speech, lists, repetition, contrasts, comparisons, quotes, etc).



Question Mark:

Anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question you would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord.



Cross:

How does this passage relate to the person, nature, character or work of Jesus.



Arrow:

What is the takeaway? A personal and practical application of the text to your life. What does God want you to understand/think? What does God want you to believe? What does God want you to desire? What does God want you to do?



Text Bubble:

Who is someone you could share this truth with? (This could be yourself, a family member, friend, roommate, classmate, neighbor, co-worker, etc.) Write down the name and pray for an opportunity to share it. This might be sharing God’s truth with another believer for encouragement or sharing it with a non-believer because “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” (Romans 10:17)

Step 4 - Begin five rounds of questioning - going through each category above and giving your group time to share.

Step 5 - Pray together: Invite people to lead in prayer as they please; no one should feel pressured to pray. The prayers can highlight what was learned during the study.

Eight Week Reading Schedule for James

Week 1 – James 1:1-4

Week 2 – James 1:5-11

Week 3 – James 1:12-18

Week 4 – James 1:19-27

Week 5 – James 2:1-13

Week 6 – James 2:14-26

Week 7 – James 3:1-12

Week 8 – James 3:13-18