

JAMES

— FAITH THAT WORKS —

James 2:17 says, “*In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*” Faith without action is a dead faith and is worse than no faith at all. Faith must work. This journey in James is guided by daily readings of the book and discussions on how true faith is to be lived out in everyday experiences.

The first week’s readings in James provides an overview of the whole book and then breaks into reading a chapter on the following weeks.

Week 1 James – An Overview

1. What fictional movie or TV *family* would you like to be a member of? Why?
2. Who was the author of this letter? (Matt 13:55, Luke 24:10, Gal 1:19)
3. What do you think it was like for James to be the half-brother of Jesus both growing up and after Jesus started his ministry on earth?
4. Have you experienced challenges in your own family because of your faith in Jesus? In what ways can your group pray for your challenges?
5. When did James become a disciple of Jesus? (1 Cor. 15:7)
6. Why do you think it took witnessing the resurrected Jesus for James to become a disciple? Has an encounter with the resurrected Jesus influenced your faith? How?
7. In what ways was James involved in the early church? (Acts 1:13-14, 12:17, 15:13, 21:17-19)
8. Under the leadership of James, the church in Jerusalem opened its doors and received the Gentiles who followed Jesus. What opportunities have you had lately to open doors to those around you to discover Jesus?
9. James’ letter counsels disciples of Jesus to have a strong faith that endures through trials and temptations, produces good works and patiently endures until Christ’s return. Does your faith need a boost in any of these three areas? What do you hope to gain from reading and discussing James?
10. Connect with one person from your group to share one thing that stood out to you from your reading in James this week.

Name of person you will connect with _____

Day and time we will connect _____