

CREEK
STUDENT
MINISTRY
COTTONWOOD CREEK CHURCH

JAMES: FAITH WORKS

A series About Active Faith



JAMES: FAITH WORKS

A Aeries About Active Faith: Week 1



Goal of Small Groups: *To create biblical disciples who follow Jesus, are being transformed by Jesus, and fish for men. (Matthew 4:19)*

How to Use this Curriculum:

Step 1: Conversation Starters from the Book of Questions and/or Play a Game from the Group

Dynamix "Games We Play" Guide

Step 2: Give Expectations for the Students

Step 3: Introduce Topic Memory Verse and Read Scripture

Step 4: Discuss Scripture

Step 5: Discuss the Apologetic Defense

Step 6: Prayer Requests

Announcements:

Encourage students to text friends who have missed Group.

Join us on Sunday Mornings for our _____ Sermon Series!

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Book of Questions:

Do you have anything that has been passed down to you by family members?

If you were stranded on a deserted island what would be three things, non survival tools, you would take?

Group Dynamix - "Games we play":

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Expectations for the Night:

"This Bible Study is designed to be a discussion and not a lecture. So when we (the leaders) ask questions, we want you to answer! I realize that it is scary to answer questions out loud but it will help you and everyone else learn. We promise not to make fun of anyone for a wrong answer. Let's learn the Word and grow together! Also, please do not use your cell phones during group time - even for the bible app. Bring a paper Bible or I can get you one."

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A Series About Active Faith: Week 1



Topic: Faith perseveres

Goal of the Lesson: Trials and temptations are both inevitable in life, but God intends for both of them to deepen our trust in him.

Remember This - Memory Verse:

James 1:2-3 (NIV)

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.

Read: James 1:1-18

1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ:

To the twelve tribes dispersed abroad. Greetings.

2 Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing. 5 Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God—who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly—and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith without doubting. For the doubter is like the surging sea, driven and tossed by the wind. 7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord, 8 being double-minded and unstable in all his ways. 9 Let the brother of humble circumstances boast in his exaltation, 10 but let the rich boast in his humiliation because he will pass away like a flower of the field. 11 For the sun rises and, together with the scorching wind, dries up the grass; its flower falls off, and its beautiful appearance perishes. In the same way, the rich person will wither away while pursuing his activities. 12 Blessed is the one who endures trials, because when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. 13 No one undergoing a trial should say, "I am being tempted by God," since God is not tempted by evil, and he himself doesn't tempt anyone. 14 But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desire. 15 Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death. 16 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. 17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. 18 By his own choice, he gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

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Discussion:

Using Bloom's Taxonomy Levels of Comprehension, let's try to help the students reach level 6 and Evaluate the Scripture for themselves. There are several questions for each level, but you do not need to use all of them.

However, you do need to start with questions from level 1 and ask at least 1 question for each level.

Level 1: Knowledge Questions

Who is writing this letter, and who is he writing to?

What are the two main things that James teaches about in this section?

Level 2: Comprehension Questions

Can you give examples of the trials that the people who received this letter were undergoing? Do we undergo trials like that today?

Explain what James means in verses 3-4.

Level 3: Application Questions

How would your thoughts and actions change if you applied James' teaching of considering it a great joy when you were in a trial?

We all go through trials in life. The next time that you go through a trial, what can you do to remind yourself of these truths and live them out?

Level 4: Analysis Questions

Work together to discover why when people are undergoing a trial they would say that they are being tempted by God. Why is this a dangerous misunderstanding of both who God is and what temptation is?

Read the full passage again and analyze it together by asking this question: What do we need to have to properly understand the difference between trials and temptation, and how do we get it?

Level 5: Synthesis Questions

Work in a group and create a plan of how you can use this passage to encourage the following people: someone who is depressed, someone whose parents are going through a divorce, and someone who is bullied.

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A Series About Active Faith: Week 2



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Book of Questions:

If you were a WWE wrestler what would your stage name be?

If you could play any professional sport what would it be?

Group Dynamix - "Games we play":

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Expectations for the Night:

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Topic: Faith Obeys

Goal of the Lesson: Those who truly follow Jesus must receive, remember, and obey God Word in faith.

Remember This - Memory Verse:

James 1:2-3 (NIV)

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.

Read: James 1:19-25

19 My dear brothers and sisters, understand this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger, 20 for human anger does not accomplish God's righteousness. 21 Therefore, ridding yourselves of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, humbly receive the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 Because if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like someone looking at his own face in a mirror. 24 For he looks at himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of person he was. 25 But the one who looks intently into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer who works — this person will be blessed in what he does.

Discussion:

Using Bloom's Taxonomy Levels of Comprehension, let's try to help the students reach level 6 and Evaluate the Scripture for themselves. There are several questions for each level, but you do not need to use all of them. However, you do need to start with questions from level 1 and ask at least 1 question for each level.

Level 1: Knowledge Questions

Can you list the commands that are given in verse 19?
Identify command is given in verse 22.

Level 2: Comprehension Questions

Can you explain what the "implanted word" is, and how it is what can save our souls?
How is it that one is able to persevere in the perfect law of freedom after receiving the implanted word?

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Level 3: Application Questions

Verse 21 speaks of ridding yourself of all moral filth, meaning sinful actions, what are three ways that you can put this into action? How do you fight sin?

James wants the readers of this letter to be doers and not just hearers of God's Word. What are some commands you need to start practicing, and how would that change how people view your personal walk with Christ?

Level 4: Analysis Questions

In this text James wants the readers to receive, remember, and obey the Word of God; analyze the text and see if you can find where these three ideas are brought up. Verse 20 states that human anger does not accomplish God's righteousness, can you show using verses 19-21 what James believes will accomplish God's righteousness?

Level 5: Synthesis Questions

Take a moment to read Deuteronomy 6:4-9, can you explain how these two texts work together to teach the same thing?

James says we are to be doers of the word and not hearers only, how are we as Christians supposed to combine hearing and doing the Word of God?

Level 6: Evaluate and Create

The man that is mentioned in verses 23-24 forgets who he is after putting down the mirror, how can this compare to what happens when students fall back into sin after events like Camp and DNOW? What can be done to prevent this from happening?

Apologetic Defense

We often do a good job of hearing the Word of God in worship, small groups, Camp, and DNOW, but James doesn't want us to stop there. Christians cannot simply hear the Word of God and continue in the same sinful life that they once lived in, there must be a change when we receive and remember the Word so we can obey the Word. People will say that they don't believe in Christianity because of the bad reputation of Christians that they know. The world often accuses Christians as being hypocrites. How would you answer their accusation?

Closing Prayer

Ask for any prayer requests and challenge a new student every week to pray.