



STEADFAST

JOY

A STUDY
IN THE
BOOK OF
JAMES

DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK ONE

STEADFAST JOY

James 1:1-3

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about steadfast joy that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. James encourages his readers to "count it all joy." What does James mean when he says to "count"? Is this process emotional, intellectual, or both?
2. What is the difference between testing and temptation (James 1:13-15)? What intended end distinguishes between testing and tempting?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. How is it possible for Christians to have joy in the midst of difficult and painful situations? How can someone realistically do this?
2. Which Scriptures do you cling to when trials come? Why do these truths in particular give you joy?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Talk with your children about what trials are and how they help shape us to look more like Jesus.
- Explain: *Trials are hard situations that we may not enjoy going through. But God tells us to think about trials as good things God is doing in our lives to help us grow in our trust in God.*
- Consider using this object lesson about "[Sanding Rough Edges](#)." Use the lesson to demonstrate the purpose of going through trials. Then, have your child think of an example of a trial, either one they have gone through or a trial the family has gone through. Discuss how that trial has helped them look more like Jesus.

APPLICATION

Reflect on a recent time when you've experienced some kind of trial or suffering. Did you respond in the way James instructs? How can you strategically prepare to respond rightly the next time these situations arise?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*God's Grace in Your Suffering*](#)

Book: [*Everyday Faithfulness: The Beauty of Ordinary Perseverance in a Demanding World*](#)

Article: "[How Suffering Reveals Your True Self](#)"

Article: "[10 Things You Should Know about Suffering](#)"

Bible Reading Plan: [Suffering: A 7-Day Reading Plan](#)

Podcast: [Where Is God in Suffering?](#)

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WEEK TWO

GOD'S PLAN TO MAKE YOU COMPLETE

James 1:4

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about steadfast joy that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. Use a Bible concordance or lexicon (either a physical book or [a digital resource](#)) to find some other words that are similar to the word "steadfastness" (Greek—ὑπομονή, hypomonē) used in James 1:4?
2. How does this word study help you better understand James's command to "let steadfastness have its full effect"?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. At which points in your life have you found yourself trying to avoid hard situations? Why?
2. Why should the promise that believers will lack nothing comfort us? How does this promise impact your perspective of Jesus's return?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Steadfastness includes the idea of "patient endurance." Talk with your children about what patient endurance might look like. Give examples of times you've patiently endured trials in the past.
- Talk with your children about God's desire for us to respond to trials in a godly way. Consider using [the sponge object lesson](#) to teach them how we should respond in times of trial.

APPLICATION

Reflect on a challenging situation you've experienced. List the ways in which the Lord used the situation to help you mature in your faith. Thank God for his faithfulness during the lowest valleys of life.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*God's Grace in Your Suffering*](#)

Book: [*Suffering: Gospel Hope When Life Doesn't Make Sense*](#)

Article: "[How to Suffer Well](#)"

Article: "[If God Loves You, He Will Prune You](#)"

Article: "[Don't Waste Your Suffering](#)"

Bible Reading Plan: [Suffering: A 7-Day Reading Plan](#)

Podcast: "[How Do I Find Hope in Suffering?](#)"

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WEEK THREE

ASKING GOD FOR WISDOM

James 1:5-8

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about steadfast joy that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. In 1 Kings 3:3-14, we read of a conversation between God and King Solomon in which Solomon asks God for wisdom. Read the story and consider why it is that God gave wisdom to Solomon.
2. The word translated “generously” (ἀπλῶς, haplos) only shows up one time in the New Testament—here in this verse. Do a quick word study to gain a more complete understanding of this word's significance.
3. Reread this week's passage. What condition does James identify for how we are to ask for wisdom? What do you think this means?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Why is it so difficult to ask God for wisdom without doubting? What doubts often arise when you ask God for wisdom?
2. Where do you tend to look for wisdom (wisdom for big decisions as well as wisdom in managing day-to-day life)?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

- Read James 1:5-7 together. Draw your children's attention to how James compares praying while doubting with waves of the sea. Consider watching [this video](#) as an introduction to your discussion about waves and/or talk about a time your family has seen waves in an ocean or lake.

As you discuss the power of waves, explain: James compares our faith to the water that should normally be steady and constant. But when doubts come, they blow away our trust in God's control. In those moments, we can get tossed around like waves during a storm. James teaches us that when we ask God for wisdom, we should fully trust him to give it to us. Being double-minded means that someone is asking God for wisdom while also doubting that God will give them wisdom. This person is like a “destructive interference” wave—faith and doubting act as opposite waves that cancel each other out. In verse 7, James teaches that the end result of this kind of prayer is that God does not give them wisdom.

APPLICATION

Make a list of the areas where you have trusted in your own wisdom to make the right decision. Consider the outcomes of these situations, particularly the ones in which God revealed how his ways and his wisdom are much better than your own. Pray with someone, asking God for wisdom in these areas.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*Praying Together*](#)

Book: [*Prayer: How Praying Together Shapes the Church*](#)

Bible: [ESV Prayer Bible](#)

Article: "[Yoda and Our Search for Wisdom](#)"

Article: "[10 Things You Should Know About Prayer](#)"

Podcast: "[How Do I Grow in Wisdom?](#)"



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WEEK FOUR

THE GREAT REVERSAL

James 1:9-11

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about poverty and wealth that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. How does James 1:9-11 relate to enduring trials?
2. How should James 1:10-11 affect your attitude about your career and your possessions?
3. In what sense does someone in humble circumstances have a high position? Why is this something to take pride in (see 1:12, 18 and 2:5)?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Do you consider yourself to be in humble or rich circumstances?
2. What does James instruct you to boast in? Is that difficult for you? Why or why not?
3. How does the knowledge that life is short affect how you live day to day?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

- Does your favorite Christmas gift from last year make you as happy now as it did when you opened it? Why or why not?
- Are riches bad? What are some good things you could do with riches?
- Why can riches tempt us to forget God?

APPLICATIONS

Reflect on your view of money in light of Jesus's return. Read what Proverbs 11:4 says about the effect money has at the last judgment.

Pray for God to reveal how you value money compared to how you value Jesus's righteousness.

Take tangible steps to make Jesus's righteousness a priority in your heart. Consider sharing these steps with a spouse, trusted friend, or accountability partner.

Need help applying financial wisdom or biblical stewardship? We offer free financial coaching. [Request Financial Coaching](#).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*Redeeming Money: How God Reveals and Reorients Our Hearts*](#)

Book: [*Money, Possessions, and Eternity*](#)

Article: "[Money is Not Your Master](#)"

Article: "[The Duality of Money's Power](#)"

Verses: "[10 Key Bible Verses on Money](#)"



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WEEK FIVE

THE BLESSING OF BEING STEADFAST

James 1:12

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about steadfastness that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. Compare verse 12 with 1 Peter 1:6-7. According to these passages, what is the result of remaining steadfast in trials?
2. Conduct a word study on "crown" (στέφανος, stephanos). As you research, consider how this word is most frequently used in the New Testament. How does this help you better understand the reward for steadfastness?
3. What does James say is the primary motivation of people who endure trials and receive the crown of life? Is this your motivation?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between trial and temptation? Why is this an important distinction for us to understand before we study verses 13-15 next week?
2. When referring to the crown of life being the Christian's reward, C. L. Mitton said, "The rewards are of a kind that only a true Christian would be able to appreciate." Is this a reward that inspires you to love God while enduring trials?
3. In which area are you constantly asking God for the strength to remain steadfast?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

- What does this verse promise to people who continue in faith until they die?
- How can remembering the ways God promises to bless Christians after they die help you when you are going through something hard?

- Which Bible verses can we remember to help us “stand the test” when things are hard?

APPLICATIONS

Experiencing trials can result in isolation from others if we become focused on our own suffering. This week, ask someone if they are enduring a trial and commit to pray for them. At the end of the week, follow up to see how they are doing.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*A Shelter in the Time of Storm: Meditations on God and Trouble*](#)

Book: [*Suffering and the Sovereignty of God*](#)

Book: [*Dark Clouds, Deep Mercy*](#)

Article: [“A Timely Reminder on God’s Purpose in Suffering”](#)

Article: [“3 Doctrines that Sustain Us in Suffering”](#)

Article: [“Help! It Feels Like God Is Far Away in My Suffering”](#)

Article: [“10 Key Bible Verses on Endurance”](#)

Article: [“10 Key Bible Verses on Patience”](#)

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WEEK SIX

BASICS OF TEMPTATION

James 1:13-15

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about temptation that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. What is the difference between outward and inward temptation? What kind of temptation is James discussing in verses 13-15?
2. According to the passage, how does temptation lead to death? Have you seen this process take place in your heart in the last week? If so, how?
3. Why does James use a birth analogy when talking about the process of sin?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. How does knowing and believing that God will never tempt you to sin give you confidence to fight sin? For more encouragement, see 1 Corinthians 10:13; Exodus 20:20; and 2 Peter 2:9?
2. When your response during trials is one of anger or bitterness, does your heart ever want to blame God for causing you to sin? Why or why not?
3. What sinful response do you most often struggle with when responding to trials?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

- Who is responsible when we sin? Can we ever say, "It's not my fault!" when we sin?
- How can wanting something so badly lead to sin? Think through situations involving toys, friends, and entertainment. What other examples can you think of?

- Think about the last time you sinned. What were you wanting so badly that you sinned to get it or sinned because you didn't get it?

APPLICATIONS

Think about your answer to General Question #3. Confess your sin and struggles to a friend who can pray with you and hold you accountable.

Pray and ask God to show you what he is trying to teach you this week through the trials and situations you are experiencing.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*A Shelter in the Time of Storm: Meditations on God and Trouble*](#)

Book: [*Tempted and Tried: Temptation and the Triumph of Christ*](#)

Book: [*Overcoming Sin and Temptation*](#)

Article: "[The Three Stages of Temptation](#)"

Article: "[The Strategies of Temptation](#)"

Podcast: "[Does Jesus Really Like Me?](#)"

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK SEVEN

EVERY GOOD GIFT

James 1:16-18

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about God's providence that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. In verse 13, James tells believers not to blame God for giving them temptations to sin. What does James tell believers that God *does* give them in verse 17?
2. How does James explain God's [common grace](#) and special grace in verses 17-18?
3. What is the ultimate good and perfect gift explained in verse 18? How does this show God's gracious provision?
4. The previous "child-birth" analogy James used showed that "sin...brings forth death." Reread verse 18. How does James use this analogy again?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. What can we learn about God from this passage?
2. In which ways do verses 13-15 parallel verses 16-18?
3. What does James mean when he calls believers "firstfruits"? Read Deuteronomy 26:1-11 for an explanation of the offering of "firstfruits."

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

- What are some of the good gifts God gives?
- What is his most important gift?

- What do these verses teach us about God's sovereignty?
- In what ways does God's sovereignty bring you joy?

APPLICATIONS

List the good gifts you have received from God in the last week. Take a few moments to thank him.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*The Things of Earth: Treasuring God by Enjoying His Gifts*](#)

Book: [*Strangely Bright: Can You Love God and Enjoy This World*](#)

Article: "[Five Principles of Providence](#)"

Article: "[10 Key Bible Verses on God's Sovereignty](#)"

Podcast: "[Why You Shouldn't Feel Bad about Enjoying the World](#)"

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WEEK EIGHT

**QUICK TO HEAR,
SLOW TO SPEAK**

James 1:19

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about our reactions that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. Before James encourages his readers to take action, how does he address them at the beginning of this verse? How can we follow this example?
2. What instruction does James give about the relationship between speaking, listening, and anger?
3. What do the following verses teach us about controlling one's temper and tongue? Read: James 1:19; Proverbs 11:12; Psalm 86:15; Proverbs 17:27; Proverbs 10:19; Titus 1:7

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. How does the way James addresses his readers show us his posture toward them? From whom do you think James learned this posture?
2. Why are all three of James's exhortations important? Which of these exhortations comes most naturally to you?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

- Why is it hard to be quick to listen? How can you become quicker to listen?
- Why is it hard to be slow to speak? How can you be slower to speak?
- Why is it hard to be slow to anger? How can you be slower to anger?
- Can you obey this verse on your own? Think through the ways Jesus demonstrated the characteristics in the first three questions. Thank him that God helps believers do the same.

APPLICATION

Reflect on a time when you regretted speaking too quickly. Ask God to help you guard your tongue more carefully.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*Untangling Emotions*](#)

Book: [*With All Your Heart: Orienting Your Mind, Desires, and Will toward Christ*](#)

Article: "[Are You a Bad Listener?](#)"

Article: "[Help! I Can't Get Control over My Tongue](#)"

Podcast: "[Help! I Keep Losing My Temper](#)"

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WEEK NINE

SLOW TO ANGER

James 1:20

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about anger that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. At the end of verse 19, James tells his readers to be "slow to anger." Are we able to do this on our own? Why or why not?
2. Do you view God as being slow to anger? Consider what Psalm 103:8-9 says about the Lord's anger
3. Read Ephesians 4:26-27. In light of these verses, when is anger not a sin? What are some examples of anger that is okay?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. What other sinful heart attitudes does anger often reveal?
2. Name some negative and positive examples of anger in the Bible.
3. When you get angry with someone, what are some healthy ways you can deal with your anger?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

A biblical definition of anger is God-given energy meant to be directed at a problem.

- Is anger always wrong?
- What are some examples of God getting angry? What was he angry about? What did he do about it?
- Think through the last time you were angry. Were you angry with the same things God gets angry with? If not, do you need to ask for forgiveness?

APPLICATION

Reflect on the things that make you angry. Ask God to help you discern why you are angry about those things.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*Untangling Emotions*](#)

Book: [*A Gentle Answer: Our "Secret Weapon" in an Age of Us Against Them*](#)

Article: "[7 Tips for Keeping Your Cool When Your Kids Misbehave](#)"

Article: "[Help! I Keep Losing My Temper](#)"

Podcast: "[What We Often Get Wrong about Our Emotions](#)"

STEADFAST

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WEEK TEN

REJECTING WICKEDNESS, RECEIVING THE WORD

James 1:21

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about repentance that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. The word "therefore" at the beginning of verse 21 connects this verse back to verses 19-20. Considering this, what "filthiness and rampant wickedness" is James referring to? How are these contrary to the Christian life?
2. What does it mean to "receive" the Word? How does a person do this?
3. In what sense is God's Word implanted in us? How does this implanting take place? For further reference, read the new covenant prophecy in Jeremiah 31:31-34.
4. James is primarily talking to believers, how will receiving the implanted Word "save your souls"? What part of salvation is still future?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. What role does ongoing repentance play in the Christian life? What does repentance look like in *your* walk with Jesus?
2. What are various ways we can receive God's Word with meekness?
3. How does James's confidence in "the implanted word, which is *able* to save your souls" build your confidence in the power and effectiveness of God's Word to sanctify *you*?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

- Think about the last time you were slow to hear, quick to speak, or quick to anger. What would it look like to "put that away" by repenting?

- What is meekness? Why do we need to receive God's words in the Bible with meekness? What would that look like?
- What does God's Word save our souls from? What does that make you want to do with God's Word this week?

APPLICATION

Consider James's exhortation to "put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness." What sin have you avoided repenting of?

James 5:16 says, "Therefore, confess your sins to one another... that you may be healed." *Healing* is promised to those who confess their sins to one another and put away their moral filth. Who can you confess your sin to today?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*Word Versus Deed: Resetting the Scales to a Biblical Balance*](#)

Book: [*Women of the Word: How to Study the Bible with Both Our Hearts and Our Minds*](#)

Article: "[How Pride Undermines the Joy of Confession](#)"

Article: "[How to Pray about Your Sin](#)"

Podcast: "[4 Reasons We Must Not Disregard God's Word](#)"

STEADFAST

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WEEK ELEVEN

ACTIONS MATTER

James 1:22-25

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about repentance that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. What similarities exist between a man who hears something but doesn't do it and a man who looks at himself in a mirror and forgets what he looks like?
2. Reread this week's passage as well as Matthew 7:24-27. In light of these verses, why is it important to go beyond merely hearing the Word by applying it as well? What do we risk if we only hear the Word (i.e. read it, listen to sermons, do Bible studies)?
3. What comes to mind when you think of biblical law? What is the "the law of liberty"? How is this a different perspective on the law than a more conventional perspective?

4

1. How do believers deceive themselves by only listening to—and not acting upon—God's message?
2. If someone were to read the Bible regularly but never apply its truths to their life, how would their life be affected?
3. What is the promise for the one who applies the Word to their life? What does this look like?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

- Is it possible to be a Christian without trying to obey God's Word? What type of person does James say is deceived?

- Why does James call God’s law a law of “liberty”? What does Christian liberty look like? Why is it freeing to obey God’s Word?
- Read Luke 6:43-45. What do our actions show us about our hearts?

APPLICATION

How can you establish practices to help you apply the Word of God as you read it? If you can’t think of an idea, think of another Christian who you see applying Scripture well and ask them what they do! Consider putting one or more practices in place this week and having a friend or mentor follow up with you regarding how you’re applying the Word alongside your Bible reading.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*Word Versus Deed: Resetting the Scales to a Biblical Balance*](#)

Book: [*Women of the Word: How to Study the Bible with Both Our Hearts and Our Minds*](#)

Article: “[4 Ways to Read the Bible for Personal Application](#)”

Article: “[How to Help Others Read and Apply the Bible](#)”

Article: “[4 Reasons We Must Not Disregard God’s Word](#)”

Podcast: “[Equip #19 – Does the Gospel Apply?](#)”



STEADFAST

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WEEK TWELVE

CARELESS WORDS CREATE A WORTHLESS RELIGION

James 1:26

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about words that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. What does it look like to "not bridle" our tongues? What does it look like when we do bridle our tongues?
2. How might a person's religion be "worthless"? How does a worthless religion look different than a beneficial one?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. How is our joy connected to the words we use? When our words are careless, where are we finding our joy?
2. Reflect on a time when you thought of yourself as religious. How was your heart deceived?
3. How does a deceived heart, as described in James 1:26, impact the way we worship in our everyday lives?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

- What does James mean by "religious?" Is it possible to do religious Christian things without being a follower of Jesus?
- What are some examples of religious things that can be done even without a heart for God?
- Based on this passage, how can we tell if our outward religious actions are genuine?
- Consider your own speech this week. Do your words match your religious actions? If not, what do you need to do?

APPLICATION

Spend time analyzing “the why” behind what you say when you speak about your relationship with the Lord. Be on the lookout for things that are religious-sounding but have no substance. Seek to break down the walls of worthless religion and make room in your heart to let Christ form your speech, thoughts, and actions this week.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: [*Word Versus Deed: Resetting the Scales to a Biblical Balance*](#)

Article: “[Comment Policy—Your Thoughts?](#)”

Article: “[How Valuable is Your Religion?](#)”

Article: “[4 Reasons We Must Not Disregard God’s Word](#)”

Song: “[Make Room](#)”

STEADFAST

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WEEK THIRTEEN

A RELIGION THAT CARES

James 1:27

SERMON REFLECTION

1. Describe one of your main takeaways from this Sunday's sermon.
2. What did you learn about true religion that you can apply to your life this week?

BIBLE STUDY

1. What does James mean by "pure and undefiled" religion? Why is pure and undefiled religion important?
2. When James states to "keep oneself unstained from the world," what does he mean by "world"?
3. Read James 1:19-27. In this larger section of Scripture, what is James teaching us about caring for others?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Of all the characteristics James could have used to describe pure and undefiled religion, why do you think he chose caring for others? Why does caring for others make one's religion pure and undefiled?
2. How does James's call to care for others align with the sermon series theme of Steadfast Joy?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Use the questions below from the Sunday Field Guide from Children's Ministries to help you engage your children in this week's sermon. For additional questions and direction on discipling your kids this week, check out the full [Sunday Field Guide](#).

- What two religious actions does this passage teach will prove whether we have really trusted in Jesus?
- What do orphans and widows have in common? What kinds of people are just as in need today? What is one way your family could better care for them?
- Are we supposed to totally separate ourselves from living with others? If not, how do we do so without becoming "stained"?

APPLICATION

Examine your own life for purity of religion in light of James's call to care for others. What is one new way you can practice serving the broken and needy?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Book: *[Befriend: Create Belonging in an Age of Judgment, Isolation, and Fear](#)*

Book: *[Until Every Child Is Home: Why the Church Can and Must Care for Orphans](#)*

Article: "[3 Tangible Ways to Care for Widows](#)"

Article: "[What I Learned from Pastoring a 106 Year Old Widow](#)"

Article: "[The Heart of True Activism](#)"

Article: "[Adoption Isn't Charity—It's War](#)"