

# get Wise

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF JAMES

## Get STEADFAST – James 1:1-5, 12, 5:7-11

Godly WISDOM [knowing HOW to do life God's way] includes:

**A JOYFUL WAY to THINK about TRIALS:** James 1:2

- 1) **God USES our TRIALS to SHAPE our CHARACTER:** James 1:3; Romans 5:3–4. See also: 2 Peter 1:5-7
- 2) **God USES our TRIALS to GROW us into His IMAGE:** James 1:4; 1 Cor. 15:49; Ephesians 4:15. See also: 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Colossians 3:10; 1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 3:18
- 3) **God USES our TRIALS to BRING US to HIM:** James 1:5; James 4:2b; 5:13a, 14a; James 4:5-6a. See also: Matthew 7:7

**A HELPFUL WAY to THINK about ENDURANCE:**

- 1) **STEADFAST in JOY and FAITH:** 1 Peter 1:6–7. See also: James 1:2-3; Colossians 1:21-23
- 2) **STEADFAST in PROCLAMATION even when PERSECUTED:** James 5:10; Hebrews 11:35-38; Matthew 5:12
- 3) **STEADFAST in LOVING SERVICE:** 1 Peter 4:19. See also: 1 Corinthians 15:58; James 2:14-17; 2 Thessalonians 3:13
- 4) **STEADFAST in LOVE of GOD and OTHERS:** James 5:8 See also: Matthew 22:36-40
  - a) **TRIALS can lead us away from LOVE of GOD and OTHERS:** Matthew 24:12–13. See also: Mark 4:19; Revelation 2:2-4
  - b) **We NEED God to REFRESH and ESTABLISH OUR LOVE:** 1 Thessalonians 3:12–13

**A HOPEFUL WAY to THINK about BLESSING:** James 1:12 See: 1 Ptr 3:14

- 1) **The BLESSING of a STABLE LIFE:** James 1:6–8. See also: vs. 11
- 2) **The BLESSING of SEEING GOD at WORK in your PRESENT LIFE:** James 5:7; Deuteronomy 11:14. See also: Matthew 5:45; Psalm 104
- 3) **The BLESSING of KNOWING GOD is REDEEMING ALL THINGS:** James 5:8; Romans 8:18; Revelation 21:5b
- 4) **The BLESSING of CONFIDENCE in God's REWARDS:** Jms 1:12; Heb. 10:36. See: 1 Co 9:25; 2 Tim 4:8; 1 Peter 5:4; Matt. 5:12; Rev. 2:10

**An ESSENTIAL WAY to THINK about GOD:** James 5:11

- 1) **God is NEVER less than LOVING, GRACIOUS and MERCIFUL:** Exodus 34:6-7a
  - a) **THEREFORE, ALL that we EXPERIENCE is LOVINGLY either PURPOSED or PERMITTED for our GOOD:** Romans 8:35, 37–39
  - b) **Job UNDERSTOOD this REALITY:** Job 1:21–22; 2:10
- 2) **God is NEVER less than JUST:** Exodus 34:7c
  - a) **The UNREPENTANT will SUFFER the due CONSEQUENCES of their SIN:** Romans 2:6–8. See: Romans 2:5, 9-11; 2 Cor. 5:10
  - b) **The REPENTANT will be DISCIPLINED for our HOLINESS:** Hebrews 12:6, 10
- 3) **God is NEVER less than GRACIOUSLY GENEROUS:** James 1:16–17; Job 42:10, 12a. See also: Acts 17:25; 1 Corinthians 4:7
- 4) **In the STEADFASTNESS of Jesus we SEE THE INTERSECTION of these THREE REALITIES:** Heb. 12:1–2. See: Romans 5:6-8; 3:23-26; 6:23

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### “Gospel In Life” questions for REFLECTION & APPLICATION

- 1) **BELIEVE:** WHAT TRUTHS did God REVEAL to me through His Word today about HIM and/or MYSELF?
- 2) **ASSESS:** HOW do these truths ENCOURAGE and/or CHALLENGE (convict) ME?
- 3) **PROCESS:** WHY is this message GOOD NEWS (GOSPEL) to ME today? (CONNECT the GOSPEL story to MY present story)
- 4) **CHANGE:** WHERE will I APPLY (BELIEVE, REPENT, DO) this message in MY own life this week?
- 5) **PROCLAIM:** With WHOM does God want ME to share these truths?
- 6) **PREPARE for NEXT WEEK:** James 1:9-11, 16-18; 5:1-6

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