

JAMES

Wisdom for the Everyday Stuff of Life

DNA GUIDE

WEEK 3: WISDOM FOR FIGHTING TEMPTATION

DISCOVER (PRE-WORK)

Before and while you read these passages ask the Spirit of God to illuminate your heart and mind and bring conviction and clarity of his truth for your life. Take some time during your own personal study to read through these four key questions:

1. Who is God (what does this passage tell me about God's character)?
2. What Has God Done (how do I see God's character in action here)?
3. Who Am I (how does God's character and action shape how I see myself)?
4. What Do I Do (if I believe 1-3 how would I respond and relate to others)?

Scripture: James 1:12-18

QUESTION: What did you DISCOVER during your study?

NURTURE

Confess out loud to one another areas of personal struggle or unbelief that the Spirit revealed during your personal study.

In light of this week's sermon, consider these questions together:

1. As you read through the book of James for the next couple of weeks, what questions come to mind? What's confusing or seems relevant to you? Write them down and use them to study the book more effectively.
2. Every hard time we face has latent in it the potential to tempt us by appealing to a wrong desire or incorrect belief about God. What temptations are you facing in light of the hard times you are going through?

3. Behind every sinful behavior is a lie we believe about God. What lies have you been believing and what truths about God do you need to remember in order to combat the lies coming your way?
4. Every hard time we face has the potential to lead us to God for help or away from God in unbelief or rebellion. What do you need to remember about God and his goodness in giving you Jesus Christ that will help you to run to him instead of away from him today?

During this time, let each person share how or where they need to repent and believe the truth of God revealed to them in Jesus. You may need to guide each other to what is true of God and ourselves in light of what Jesus has done. For instance, someone may be experiencing a great deal of dryness or emptiness in their relationship with God. They may need to be reminded that God wants to satisfy the deep thirst of their soul with the living water that Jesus has to offer. The call to repent may look like turning away (repent) from empty sources or corrupt sources that they have been depending up and turning to Jesus (believe) to be the unending supply of soul water. Use this time for confessing out loud the wrong sources and calling out in prayer for God the Father to pour His love into their hearts through his Spirit as they turn to Jesus for help.

QUESTION: How will you REPENT and BELIEVE the gospel?

ACT

In light of your time together, what steps will you take to act on your new discoveries and affirmed beliefs?

Consider these questions:

1. How will you slow down to pay close attention to what you desire and how that desire is controlling your behaviors?
2. What do your emotions, thoughts and actions reveal you have been believing about God?
3. In what ways do you need to repent from believing lies about God?
4. What truths about God do you need to remember and believe to lead you to look to him to satisfy your greatest desires and needs?

QUESTION: What will you DO and who will you TELL about what God has done?