

Living Faith
A Study in the book of James
(James 1:1-16)

1. What do you know about the author of this letter?

Compare: Mark 6:3 / John 7:1-5 / Acts 15:13 / Acts 21:18 / Galatians 1:19 / 2:9)

2. What parallels and similarities do you see between James' letter and Jesus words?

Matthew 5:3 – James 2:5

Matthew 5:33-37 – James 5:12

Matthew 6:19 – James 5:2

Matthew 7:16 – James 3:12

Matthew 7:24 - James 1:22

3. What similarities do you find with James' letter and Peter's letters?

I Peter 1:1 – James 1:1

I Peter 1:6 – James 1:2

I Peter 4:10 – James 5:5

4. The theme of this book is “Don't just know what you believe, but show what you believe”. (Compare: James 1:22 / 2:18-20)

How does this theme compare with Ephesians 2:8-10 / Titus 3:5 / 8 / 14?

5. What are some examples of “Outward Pressures” and trials that we face today? (1:3-5)

How should you respond to these trials that are out of your control?

Compare: James 5:10-11 / II Corinthians 1:3-11

6. What are some of the “Inward Pulls” and temptations that we face today? (1:13-16)

How should we respond to these temptations and inward desires?

Compare: II Timothy 2:22 / Review Joseph's temptation (Genesis 39)

7. Compare the following verses with James 1:16. (I Cor 6:9 / 15:33 / Gal 6:7 / I Jn 3:7-8)

What do you notice about the context of each of these passages.

Why do you think we frequently deceive ourselves when it comes to temptation and sin?

8. How can prayer help you when you go through difficult times out of your control? (5-8)

Compare Solomon's request in I Kings 3:9-12 / 3:16-28 / 10:1-10

9. Why do you think James includes verses 9-11 in the context of temptation and sin?

Compare: I Timothy 6:6-11 where Paul warns of the love of money!

Notice that he says “flee” from these things! (11) (II Tim 2:22)

10. Share with your group one thing that you have learned from this passage.

What will you do this week to “show that you believe” what you just read?

