

# Getting Clarity in an Unclear World

## James 1:1-11

### CONNECT:

What has been the high/low of the past week?

### PREPARE

- What are your thoughts on the events of last week?
- If one theme from the book of James is that, as Christians we are called to love those around us and to engage the world with the mission of Jesus, how do you engage with others on tough topics like this?

### STUDY AND DISCUSS:

- Read James 1:1. What is noteworthy of James' introduction of himself? Who do most scholars believe to be the author (James) of this book?
- Read James 1:2-11. The word 'trials' literally means something unexpected and unwelcome. Why does James tell us to basically celebrate those things?
- Verse 5 is a key to understanding much of this book. It gives us perspective to the testing of our faith in verse 3. What is the difference between Godly wisdom and worldly wisdom?
- Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-27.
- Three ways trials can happen to us: broken world, testing of Satan and God appoints trials (for our good and His glory). How have you experienced these in your own life?
- In verse 8, James mentions a 'double-minded' man. How do honest doubts differ from this "double-minded" man?
- The Psalms are filled with examples of doubting and questioning God. What is it that the Psalmist **doesn't** doubt or question in the midst of trials?

## Community Group Discussion Questions

### RESPONSE:

Getting clarity is not the same as seeing clearly. How can you have clarity when you don't understand a situation?

### PRAY

Lord, please give us wisdom and help us to trust you and your character when we don't understand your thoughts and your ways.