

JAMES

FOR BEGINNERS

PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY

MIKE MAZZALONGO

STUDENT WORKBOOK

bibleTalk^{TV}



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James for Beginners

Practical Christianity

Mike Mazzalongo

James' practical approach to Christian living makes his discussion of complex spiritual issues both easy to understand and implement in one's life.



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1. Christianity: More Than Ceremony

This introductory lesson reviews the author, date written and general purpose for this practical book on Christian living.

Intro - Most people think “ceremonies” when thinking of religion.

Christianity has only two ceremonies:

1. _____ Acts 2:36-42; Romans 6:3
2. _____ I Corinthians 11:23-26

Christianity has, for many, become a series of:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Christianity is a _____ defined by the _____.

James’ book contains no mention of:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Book of James – James 1:1

A. Author

4 James:

#1 James _____ Matthew 4:21; Acts 12:2

#2 James _____ Matthew 10:3

#3 James _____

_____ Luke 16:15-16

#4 James _____ Matthew 13:55; Galatians 1:9

_____ Acts 15:12-13

B. Life of James

Mark 3:21 _____

I Corinthians 15:7 _____

Josephus _____

C. Epistle of James

D. Purpose of Letter

Intended for Jewish Christians living away from Jerusalem.

Synagogue _____

Acts 13:13-15 _____



E. Reasons for the Letter

Summary

Reasons to study this book:

1. It shows _____

2. It covers _____

3. We live in _____



2. Beyond the Trouble

James explains the radically different way Christians deal with trouble in life, and why they do so. (James 1:2-12)

How a Christian Reacts to the Trials of Life

A. James 1:2-4

Vs. 3a

B. Faith is examined in three ways:

- ---
- ---
- ---

Vs. 3b

Vs. 4



God Provides Help to Face Trials

Vs. 5a _____

Vs. 5b _____

Vs. 6-8 _____

Some pray for God to help them but, _____

Examples of Godly Wisdom

Vs. 9-11 _____

1. Wisdom concerning _____

2. Wisdom concerning _____

Conclusion

Vs. 12 _____

Those who persevere in trial will be happy for several reasons:

A. Approved _____

B. Anticipation _____

C. Sincerity _____

Happiness vs. Excitement

Happiness is _____

Excitement is _____

The main difference between the two is _____

Happiness begins at _____

Two things contribute to happiness when we become Christians:

- _____
- _____

Summary

Two good questions to ask ourselves:

- _____

- _____

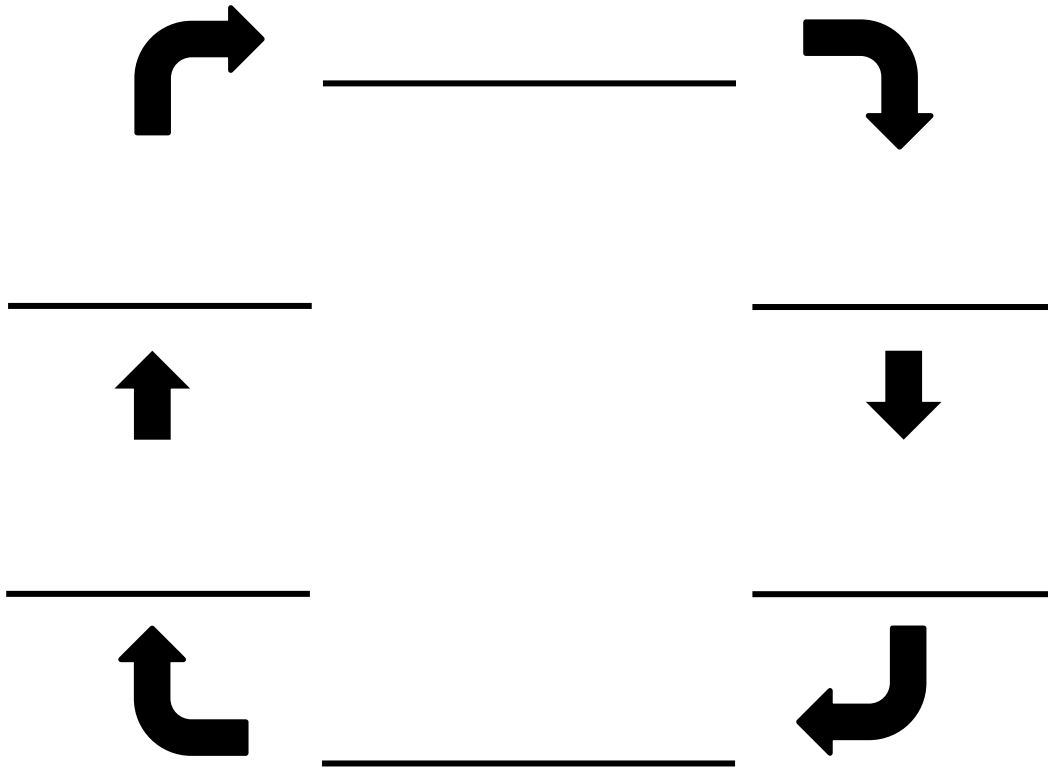
Answer?

1. _____

2. _____

3. Dealing with the Dragon

Sin is everybody's problem and in this lesson Mike reviews the true tested method that James provides to successfully deal with the everyday temptations to sin. (James 1:13-15)



How a Christian Deals with Temptation

James 1:13 _____

God is not _____

God does not _____

Why? 1. _____

2. _____

How Does Temptation Lead to Sin?

James 1:14-15 _____

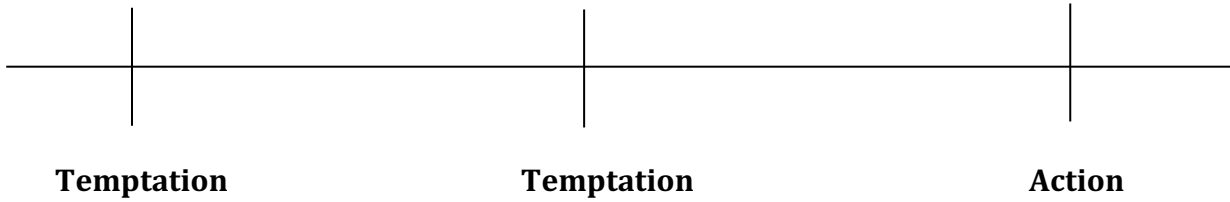
Realize that temptation _____

How temptation leads to sin.

Vs. 14 _____

We become victims of sin because _____

Temptation and sin track



What to do when tempted:

1. Identify _____
2. Say _____
3. Pray _____
4. Seek _____
5. Change _____

James 1:15 _____

Cain and Abel

Genesis 2:2-5 _____

Vs. 6-7 _____



Vs. 8 _____

Satan's ultimate goal is to _____

Summary

How does a Christian deal with sin?

1. Recognize _____

2. Take _____

3. I John 1:9 _____

4. The Bottom Line

This section in the Book of James defines the type of thinking and behavior that constitutes the "bottom line" in what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. (James 1:16-27)

Intro - There has always been debate in the religious world, even in the early church.

Acts 6 _____

Acts 15 _____

I Corinthians _____

I Corinthians 3:10 _____

Not agreeing doesn't mean we should give up the faith.

Bridge

James 1:16-18 is a bridge between _____

Vs. 16 _____

Vs. 17 – God sends good things.

Some things are beyond debate:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Vs. 18 _____

Don't be fooled!

The Bottom Line in Christian Conduct.

The primary trademark of the Christian life is _____



How we _____ determines _____

Response to the Word has two elements:

1. The way we _____

Vs. 19 _____

Vs. 20 _____

Vs. 21 _____

2. The way we _____

Vs. 22 _____

Vs. 23-25 _____



The Law of Liberty frees us from _____ but not from _____

Vs. 26-27 - James gives three examples of what the mirror can reveal and a proper response:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

5. Michael Jackson and James

Michael Jackson's old song, "Black or White" reflects the attitude that James says Christians should have towards other people. (James 2)

Intro - Michael Jackson _____

Allen Funt - Candid Camera _____


People in Christ treat _____

Christians Treat Different People in the Same Way - James 2:1-13

Vs. 1 _____

Vs. 2-3 - An example _____

Vs. 4 _____



Vs. 5 _____

Vs. 6-7 _____

Vs. 8 _____

Vs. 9-13 _____

1. 10 Commandments – Judicial System

2. Law of Liberty – Mercy System

The Christian's Attitude – James 2:14-26

Vs. 14-17 – True religion consists of mercy to _____

Vs. 18 – A brother might say, “I have faith.”

Vs. 19

It's not _____ of Christ that _____

It's _____ in Christ that _____

Vs. 20

Vs. 21-24 – Two examples of faith in action:

1. Abraham

God works perfect faith.

Vs. 25

2. Rahab

Vs. 26 _____

Summary

Christians do not _____

If his faith is alive _____

Seven Say and Do Test:

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Say _____ | - Do _____ |
| 2. Say _____ | - Do _____ |
| 3. Say _____ | - Do _____ |
| 4. Say _____ | - Do _____ |
| 5. Say _____ | - Do _____ |
| 6. Say _____ | - Do _____ |
| 7. Say _____ | - Do _____ |

6. Teaching Teachers' Tongues

In this lesson, James reviews both the qualifications and results that Christian teachers should aspire to. (James 3:1-8)

Students have profited from James if:

A. Faced trials _____

B. Faced temptations _____

C. Decided to _____

D. You have begun _____

E. You have demonstrated _____

Qualifications of Teachers

A. _____ - 3:1

B. _____ - 3:2-4

An uncontrolled tongue is dangerous:

1. Causes great _____ - 3:5-6

2. Hard to _____ - 3:9-12

3. Destroys our _____ - 3:9-12

Christian Teachers Must Produce Fruit

_____ - 3:12

Wisdom from below produces:

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

Earthly wisdom produces a zeal for God but based in _____

Teaching from this basis produces _____



1. Listen Carefully _____ Proverbs 1:5-7

2. Respond _____ Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

3. Control your _____

Proverbs 10:19 _____

How?

A. Learn to _____

- Proverbs 29:23 _____

B. Learn to _____



- Proverbs 17:28 _____

- Proverbs 18:2 _____

- Philippians 4:8 _____

C. Learn to say _____

- Proverbs 16:21 _____

- Proverbs 25:11 _____

Summary

James 3:18 _____

7. Prescription for Worldliness

In this section of this epistle, James performs a spiritual check-up on his readers. (James 4:1-10)

Intro - Review concerning good and bad teachers

Symptoms - James 4:1a

Diagnosis - James 4:1b-3

Vs. 1b - The flesh wants its own way _____

Vs. 2a - How quarrels begin and continue _____

Vs. 2b-3 _____

They don't ask for _____ therefore they don't receive these.

The things they fought over were things _____

Prognosis (warning) – James 4:4-6

Review:

A. Symptom _____

B. Diagnosis _____

Vs. 4a _____

Vs. 4b _____

Vs. 5 – God is serious _____

- Ephesians 4:30-31 _____

Vs. 6 – God rewards those who resist fleshly temptations.

The Cure - James 4:7-10

1. Make a _____ vs. 7a

2. Make a _____ vs. 7b

People fall away because:

- _____
- _____
- _____

3. Draw _____ vs. 8-10

How do we draw near to God?

A. Cleanse _____

B. Purify _____

C. Sincere _____



FAITH ----- **REPENTANCE** ----- **OBEDIENCE**





Review the cure for worldliness.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

If you feel that God is far away _____

8. Who Do You Think You Are?

James addresses the causes and cures for the destructive sins of harsh criticism and gossip. (James 4:11-12)

Intro - Nothing can destroy a person's faith faster than _____

Don't Speak Badly About Others - James 4:11a

When do we do this?

A. _____

Luke 6:45 _____

B. _____

This produces:

Pride _____

Jealousy _____

When we speak badly, we are doing two things

Vs. 11b _____

1. We are _____

Vs. 12a _____

2. We are _____

Exhortation - vs. 12b

Who do you think you are? _____?

This is a terrible sin because:

1. Destroys _____

2. Destroys _____

3. Destroys _____



Gossip Solutions - Galatians 6:1a

1. Learn to _____

A. Restore with gentleness _____

B. Watch out for your weakness _____

C. Find out _____

D. Compare yourself to _____

2. Learn how to _____

3. When offended, learn _____

I Peter 2:21-23 _____



Summary

The solution:

A. Learn _____

B. Learn to _____

C. Learn to _____

Psalm 133:1-3

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is

For brothers to dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious oil upon the head,

Coming down upon the beard,

Even Aaron's beard,

Coming down upon the edge of his robes.

It is like the dew of Hermon

Coming down upon the mountains of Zion;

For there the Lord commanded the blessing—life forever.

9. Who's the Boss?

James outlines the basic rules for success that Christian business people should follow. (James 4:13-5:6)

Intro - One area where we rarely see prayer is _____

Arrogance - James 4:13-17

Arrogance is a feeling of _____

Vs. 13 _____

James says that some businesspeople make plans as if _____

Vs. 14 _____

Vs. 15 _____

Vs. 16 _____



Vs. 17 - To know these things _____

The Christian needs to know that the future _____

Whether a business succeeds or fails is not the point, _____

Greed - James 5:1-3

Greed is that attitude where a person _____

Christians need to avoid greed because _____

Vs. 1 _____

Vs. 2-3 - Here, James describes the danger of greed. _____

When Christ appears _____



Injustice - James 5:4-6

Arrogance and Greed are the main vices to watch out for in money and business matters.

Vs. 4


Vs. 5

Vs. 6

Adultery is the ultimate sin generated by lust,

Summary

James warns



What should a Christian businessperson's attitude be?

A. Bring all _____

B. In business _____

C. Recognize that God _____

- II Corinthians 9:6-11 _____

John Wesley _____

“I fling money out of my pocket _____
_____.”



10. Four PS's from James

In this final lesson, Mike will review the six ways Christians are different and James' final words of encouragement to his readers. (James 5:7-20)

The Jewish Christians James was writing to were _____

Culture _____

Religion _____

They realized that Christianity was _____

Six Ways Christians are Different

1. Christians rejoice _____

1:1-11

2. Christians respond _____

1:12-18; 4:1-10

3. Christians not only _____

1:19-27; 2:14-26

4. Christians are not _____
_____ 2:1-13; 4:11-12

5. Christians control _____
_____ 3:1-18

6. Christians consider God _____
_____ 4:13-5:6

4 PS's from James

1. Patience - 5:7-11

Don't be discouraged:

1. Your growth _____

2. Others seem _____

3. You are suffering _____

2. Purity of Heart - 5:12

Revelation 3:14-16 _____

3. Prayer – 5:13-18

Vs. 13-14

Vs. 15-18 – The Power of Prayer

1. God answers

2. God answers

3. God answers

The Christian life is one of prayers.

4. Pause for Serious Reflection – 5:19-20

Vs. 19



Vs. 20 - We should help one another.

1. Help your brother _____

2. Don't be angry _____

3. Be happy and humble _____

Summary

Persevere _____

Pure in heart _____

Pray _____

Pause _____

Don't simply _____ you must _____ - Matthew 7:21-23



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