

2017 Women's Summer Bible Study

James

glorifying for all the things and seen, which had been told.

The Temple

one day, when it was unwise him, he was the name the angel had before he had been con-

the time of their purification to the Law of Moses completed, Joseph and his family went to Jerusalem to present the boy to the Lord. Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord, and to offer a sacrifice to the Lord: a pair of doves or a young pigeon.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. He had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, I dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people. A light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory to your people Israel.

James

*Physical
Mental
Spiritual*

crowds coming out to see him, "You brood of vipers! You murderers! Stop murdering the innocent and produce fruit with repentance." And

do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father." For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"What should we do then?" the crowd asked.

John answered, "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same."

Tax collectors and soldiers also came to be baptized. They asked, "what should we do?"

John replied, "Don't extort money. Don't accuse people falsely. Be content with your pay."

The people were waiting expectantly, and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ.

John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them.

But when John rebuked Herod, his tetrarch because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison.

Acts 1:5 regarding the baptism with the Holy Spirit.
Isaiah 40:3-5
Or Messiah
Or in

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How to Use This Guide

Dear Friend,

Thank you for deciding to spend time digging into the Epistle of James! We can't wait to see what God has in store for us all as we dig into this short but powerful letter together. But before we dive in, we wanted to take a moment to explain a few things about this guide so that your experience using it may go as smoothly as possible.

This past year during our women's large group meetings we learned the Bible study method from Women of the Word by Jen Wilkin. Now, through this study of James we have the opportunity to practice this approach together as we work through a book of the Bible from start to finish. Don't worry if you weren't able to join us for the Large Group meetings. All you need is your Bible, this guide, a willing heart, and most of all the Holy Spirit to help you. It will also help to pick up a copy of Women of the Word. The book goes into more detail about each step of the process and provides valuable perspective. Copies are available at the church for \$7.00.

One of our goals for this Bible study is that each of us would be further equipped to study the Bible on our own. As a result, this guide may look a bit different than Bible study guides you have used in the past. Its purpose is to provide reminders and clarity for the process we are using, but it is intentionally "bare bones", allowing you to really take ownership of your study of James.

Beginning on the page after this you will find a brief summary of the Bible study method from Women of the Word. This is intended to serve as a quick reference for you, but if you need more information about any of the steps you can consult Women of the Word. We welcome you to bring any unresolved questions about the Bible study method or about the passage to the meeting as well.

Each week you'll find the reference for the section of James we will be discussing at our meeting, as well as worksheets to assist you in thinking through each step of the process. For the first week we have a couple of additional worksheets for Study with Purpose and Study with Perspective, since that week will also serve as an introduction to the letter. You'll also find two different methods for application provided. The first is from Women of the Word and the second is from Knowable Word by Peter Krol. Please feel free to choose whichever one you prefer and run with it! Also, if you flip near the end of the guide you'll find the text of James. You can mark this up with colored pencils or pens over the course of your study, or you can mark up your Bible!

We are likely to get the most out of our study if we make a solid attempt at understanding the Scriptures on our own before consulting outside sources. Discoveries that are hard won tend to resonate more deeply with us than quickly glancing at the notes in our study Bible to answer our questions. However, if you still have questions after laboring patiently in your study, by all means check out the notes of a good study Bible and/or commentary. You can find recommended resources in the appendix.

Finally, while we do have a goal for us all to grow in our Bible study skills, far more important is the purpose that each of us would grow in our love for God and others. Paul told Timothy in 1 Timothy 1:5 that "the aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart, and a good conscience and a sincere faith." Would you join us in praying that God would transform each of us through our time in James?

To God be the glory!

Janie & Kari Smith

Women of the Word Bible Study Method: A Brief Summary

As you begin to study the Epistle of James, start by reading it over and over. Jen Wilkin, the author of Women of the Word: How to Study the Bible with Both Our Hearts and Our Minds, suggests that as you read, begin to think about what the author's main point(s) could be in each section or chapter. Think about what the overall message of the book could be. You may wish to jot down these early purpose statements and theme ideas in the note sections of this guide, or in a journal. She also suggests that you read the book in different translations (or even read it aloud). As you begin to familiarize yourself with the book, begin to work through Jen's five steps for Bible study.

Jen says, "The Five P's...are not a checklist, but a set of practices that interrelate and overlap (p. 110)." During this season in Women's Ministry, we focused mostly on three of her Five P's – purpose, perspective and process, but don't forget the other two - patience and prayer, which are also very helpful throughout one's study.

1. Study with Purpose: "Try to understand where your text fits into the Big Story of the Bible. What part does it play in telling the story of creation-fall-redemption-restoration? How does it point to the reign and rule of God? This will get clearer with further study. Just get a general idea as you begin (consult the introductory material in your study Bible or a commentary) and commit to keeping the question in the back of your mind as you go." (Ch. 3, pp. 49-58 & Ch. 8, pp. 109-112, Women of the Word)

2. Study with Perspective: "Using a study Bible, trusted commentary, or both, answer the archaeological questions below. Take your time so that once you begin reading, you will be able to listen for how the letter would have been heard by its original audience. In your journal, write out each of the archaeological questions and note a brief answer for each." (Ch. 8, p. 112 & Ch. 4, pp. 59-72, Women of the Word)

- 1) Who wrote it?
- 2) When was it written?
- 3) To whom was it written?
- 4) In what style was it written?
- 5) Why was it written?

3. Study with Patience: "Resolve not to hurry. Set a realistic expectation for your pace of study, focusing on the long term." (Ch. 8, p. 110 & Ch. 5, pp. 73-84, Women of the Word)

4. Study with Process: "Begin methodically reading for comprehension, interpretation, and application." (Ch. 8, p. 110, 113-122 & Ch. 6, pp. 85-101, Women of the Word)

Comprehension – What Does It Say?

- 1) A Printed Copy of the Text (provided for you in the email) – With markers or colored pencils, mark repeated words, phrases or ideas, etc. (pp. 89-90)
- 2) Repetitive Reading (pp. 90-92)
- 3) Annotation – “Are certain words, phrases, or ideas repeated? Is a particular attribute of God described? Does the text make several points in a row? Are there words you don't understand? Are there key transition words? Is an idea confusing? Mark them on your printed copy”. (pp. 92-93)
- 4) An English Dictionary (pp. 93-94)
- 5) Other Translations of the Bible (p. 94)
- 6) Outlining (p. 94 & especially pp. 114-116)

Interpretation – What Does It Mean?

- 1) Cross-References (p. 96 & 116)
- 2) Paraphrasing (p. 97 & 117, 120)
- 3) Consulting Commentary (p. 120)

Application – How Should It Change Me?

- 1) What does this passage teach me about God?
- 2) How does this aspect of God's character change my view of self?
- 3) What should I do in response?
(Ch. 8, pp. 120-122 & Ch. 6, pp. 98-101)

5. Study with Prayer: “Ask the Father to help you before, during, and after your study time.” (Ch. 8, p. 110 & Ch. 7, pp. 103-108)

Week One Study with Purpose

Begin to consider where you might see the themes of creation, fall, redemption and restoration in the letter of James. At this early stage, these will be preliminary thoughts; you can return to this worksheet in later weeks to add to it as your understanding of the letter increases.

Theme	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Creation	
Fall	
Redemption	
Restoration	

Week One
Study with Perspective: The Five Questions

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Who wrote it?	
When was it written?	
To whom was it written?	
In what style was it written?	
Why was it written?	

Week One - James 1:1-18
Comprehension - What does it say?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Repeated words, phrases or ideas	
Attributes of God	
Transition Words	
Words to define	
Questions/ Confusing Ideas	

Week One - James 1:1-18
Interpretation - What does it mean?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Cross-references	
Paraphrasing	
What others say. Commentaries	
Main idea of the passage	

Week One - James 1:1-18
Application - How should it change me?
Method #1 from Women of the Word

Question/Task	
<p>What does the passage teach me about God?</p>	
<p>How does this aspect of God's character change my view of self?</p>	
<p>What should I do in response?</p>	

Week One - James 1:1-18
Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol*

Application Questions *

These questions can be used as you work through the worksheet on the next page. You do not need to answer all of them unless you want to! Remember, you only need to use one method for application, so if you already used the method above from Women of the Word you do not need to use this one.

Head

- 1) Identify what you think.
- 2) Identify what God wants you to think instead (especially about his attributes, his character, and his world).
- 3) Begin thinking God's thoughts.

Heart

- 1) What do you desire or value, and how can you adopt Jesus' desires or values where you suspect yours and his don't match up?
- 2) What ungodly character traits should you turn from, and what Christ-like character traits can you imitate instead?
- 3) In what areas do you tend to rely on your performance, and how can you rely more on Christ's performance?
- 4) What are your greatest hopes? Is your bucket list too small compared to the Lord's bucket list for you?
- 5) Are yours the kind of heart attitudes others should seek to acquire? Why or why not, and what will you do about it?

Hands

- 1) Does this passage bring to mind a good work that you can do for others?
- 2) Can you think of a skill to develop that will better equip you for this work?
- 3) Is there something you need to stop doing (put off)?
- 4) Is there something you need to start doing (put on)?

- The application questions for head and heart as well as the grid on the next page are from Knowable Word by Peter Krol.

Week One - James 1:1-18
Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol (continued)

	Inward (Growing as a disciple)	Outward (Making disciples)
Head (What I think and believe)		
Heart (Who I am and what I want)		
Hands (What I do)		

Week Two - James 1:19-27
Comprehension - What does it say?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Repeated words, phrases or ideas	
Attributes of God	
Transition Words	
Words to define	
Questions/ Confusing Ideas	

Week Two - James 1:19-27
Interpretation - What does it mean?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Cross-references	
Paraphrasing	
What others say. Commentaries	
Main idea of the passage	

Week Two - James 1:19-27
Application - How should it change me?
Method #1 from Women of the Word

Question/Task	
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Application - How should it change me?
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Heart (Who I am and what I want)		
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Comprehension - What does it say?

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Repeated words phrases or ideas	
Attributes of God	
Transition Words	
Words to define	
Questions/ Confusing Ideas	

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Interpretation - What does it mean?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Cross-references	
Paraphrasing	
What others say. Commentaries	
Main idea of the passage	

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Week Three - James 2:1-13
Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol (continued)

	Inward (Growing as a disciple)	Outward (Making disciples)
Head (What I think and believe)		
Heart (Who I am and what I want)		
Hands (What I do)		

Week Four - James 2:14-26
Comprehension - What does it say?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Repeated words phrases or ideas	
Attributes of God	
Transition Words	
Words to define	
Questions/ Confusing Ideas	

Week Four - James 2:14-26
Interpretation - What does it mean?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Cross-references	
Paraphrasing	
What others say. Commentaries	
Main idea of the passage	

Week Four - James 2:14-26
Application - How should it change me?
Method #1 from Women of the Word

Question/Task	
<p>What does the passage teach me about God?</p>	
<p>How does this aspect of God's character change my view of self?</p>	
<p>What should I do in response?</p>	

Week Four - James 2:14-26
Application - How should it change me?
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Week Four - James 2:14-26
Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol (continued)

	Inward (Growing as a disciple)	Outward (Making disciples)
Head (What I think and believe)		
Heart (Who I am and what I want)		
Hands (What I do)		

Week Five - James 3:1-4:12
Comprehension - What does it say?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Repeated words phrases or ideas	
Attributes of God	
Transition Words	
Words to define	
Questions/ Confusing Ideas	

Week Five - James 3:1-4:12
Interpretation - What does it mean?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Cross-references	
Paraphrasing	
What others say. Commentaries	
Main idea of the passage	

Week Five - James 3:1-4:12
Application - How should it change me?
Method #1 from Women of the Word

Question/Task	
<p>What does the passage teach me about God?</p>	
<p>How does this aspect of God's character change my view of self?</p>	
<p>What should I do in response?</p>	

Week Five - James 3:1-4:12
Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol*

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Week Five - James 3:1-4:12
Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol (continued)

	Inward (Growing as a disciple)	Outward (Making disciples)
Head (What I think and believe)		
Heart (Who I am and what I want)		
Hands (What I do)		

Week Six - James 4:13-5:12
Comprehension - What does it say?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Repeated words phrases or ideas	
Attributes of God	
Transition Words	
Words to define	
Questions/ Confusing Ideas	

Week Six - James 4:13-5:12
Comprehension - What does it say?

Outline of the passage:

Week Six - James 4:13-5:12
Interpretation - What does it mean?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Cross-references	
Paraphrasing	
What others say. Commentaries	
Main idea of the passage	

Week Six - James 4:13-5:12
Application - How should it change me?
Method #1 from Women of the Word

Question/Task	
<p>What does the passage teach me about God?</p>	
<p>How does this aspect of God's character change my view of self?</p>	
<p>What should I do in response?</p>	

Week Six - James 4:13-5:12
Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol*

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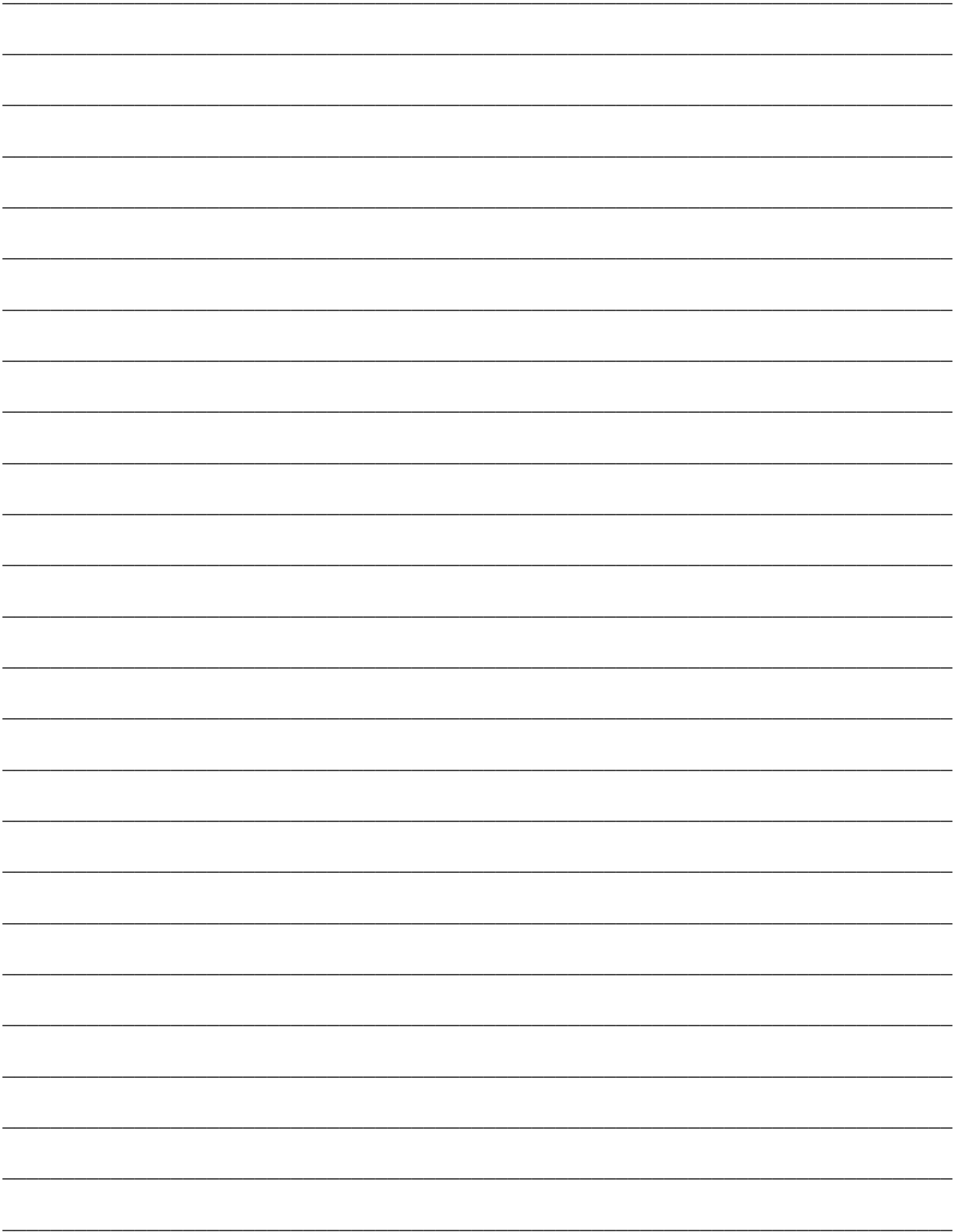
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Week Six - James 4:13-5:12
Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol (continued)

	Inward (Growing as a disciple)	Outward (Making disciples)
Head (What I think and believe)		
Heart (Who I am and what I want)		
Hands (What I do)		



Week Seven - James 5:13-20
Comprehension - What does it say?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Repeated words phrases or ideas	
Attributes of God	
Transition Words	
Words to define	
Questions/ Confusing Ideas	

Week Seven - James 5:13-20
Comprehension - What does it say?

Outline of the passage:

Week Seven - James 5:13-20
Interpretation - What does it mean?

Question/Task	Thoughts/Comments/Questions/Facts
Cross-references	
Paraphrasing	
What others say. Commentaries	
Main idea of the passage	

Week Seven - James 5:13-20
Application - How should it change me?
Method #1 from Women of the Word

Question/Task	
<p>What does the passage teach me about God?</p>	
<p>How does this aspect of God's character change my view of self?</p>	
<p>What should I do in response?</p>	

Week Seven - James 5:13-20
Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol*

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Application - How should it change me?
Method #2 from Knowable Word by Peter Krol (continued)

	Inward (Growing as a disciple)	Outward (Making disciples)
Head (What I think and believe)		
Heart (Who I am and what I want)		
Hands (What I do)		

A series of 30 horizontal lines for writing, spanning the width of the page.

James 1

1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings.

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

9 Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, 10 and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. 11 For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

12 Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. 14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every

perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. 24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. 25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

James 2

1 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. 2 For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, 3 and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at

my feet," 4 have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? 5 Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. 9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. 11 For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. 12 So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. 13 For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. 18 But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. 19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! 20 Do you want to be shown, you foolish

person, that faith apart from works is useless? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"—and he was called a friend of God. 24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. 25 And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? 26 For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

James 3

1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. 2 For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. 3 If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. 4 Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. 5 So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. 7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9 With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with

it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. 10 From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. 11 Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? 12 Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. 15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. 17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. 18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

James 4

1 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? 2 You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. 4 You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. 5 Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? 6 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God.

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

11 Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. 12 There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

13 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." 16 As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. 17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

James 5

1 Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. 2 Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. 4 Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord

of hosts. 5 You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

7 Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. 8 You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. 9 Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. 10 As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 11 Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

12 But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. 14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. 17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18 Then he prayed again, and heaven

gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

19 My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, 20 let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Appendix - Recommended Resources

Books:

ESV Study Bible. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2011

Peter Krol. *Knowable Word*. Cruciform Press, 2014.

Douglas Moo. *The Letter of James*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 2000.

Jen Wilkin. *Women of the Word*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2014.

Websites:

<http://www.gracebiblelorton.com/wmresources/> (Here you can listen to the talks from the women's Large Group meetings)

knowableword.com (There are many free resources available on this site, including additional worksheets and numerous articles on Bible study)

2017 Women's Summer Bible Study Monday Evenings at the church

June 19: Week 1

Study with Purpose, Study with Perspective and James 1:1-18

June 26: Week 2

James 1:19-27

July 17: Week 3

James 2:1-13

July 24: Week 4

James 2:14-26

July 31: Week 5

James 3:1-4:12

August 14: Week 6

James 4:13-5:12

August 21: Week 7

James 5:13-20 & Wrap-up