

A photograph of a person wearing a white protective suit, standing in a room. The background features a large, abstract painting on a wall, characterized by dark, expressive brushstrokes in shades of blue and black. The floor is covered with crumpled, light-colored paper. The overall scene suggests a laboratory or a controlled environment where the person is engaged in a task, possibly related to the 'MOVEMENT' theme.

M O V E M E N T

READING PLAN



Week ONE

# J A M E S

ONE

<sup>1</sup> James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations:

Greetings.

<sup>2</sup> Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup> because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

<sup>4</sup> Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. <sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. <sup>6</sup> But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup> Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

<sup>9</sup> Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. <sup>10</sup> But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. <sup>11</sup> For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

<sup>13</sup> When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; <sup>14</sup> but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. <sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

<sup>16</sup> Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

<sup>19</sup> My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, <sup>20</sup> because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. <sup>21</sup> Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

<sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

<sup>26</sup> Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

W E E K O N E



# W E E K O N E

Read all of chapter 1 every day focusing on the highlighted scripture for each day of the week.

## MONDAY

JAMES 1:1-8

1. From the start, James talks about how his readers are supposed to respond to difficult situations. Think of a recent time you've faced adversity. How did you respond to that situation?
2. What do our responses to adversity say about the way we view God?

## TUESDAY

JAMES 1:9-15

1. How have you understood the difference between temptation and testing? How do these verses help us understand the origin of sin and where it leads?
2. After reading these verses, how do you understand the relationship between temptation, desire, sin and death?

## WEDNESDAY

JAMES 1:16-21

1. How does knowing that "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows (1:17)" influence how you steward what you've been given (money, time, influence, etc.)?
2. James calls his readers to hold three distinct characteristics in relationship with one another: To be "quick to listen", "slow to speak" and "slow to anger" (1:19). How do embracing these three characteristics relate to producing "the righteousness God desires" (1:20) and "accepting the word planted in you" (1:21)?



# THURSDAY

JAMES 1:22-25

1. In what areas of your life are you hearing and doing the word? (1:22)
2. In what areas of your life are you hearing and not doing the word? (1:22)

# FRIDAY

JAMES 1:26-27

1. How does James describe a "pure and faultless" religion in 1:27? What are some tangible ways this "pure religion" could begin to be lived out more in your life today?

C H A L L E N G E

"DO NOT MERELY LISTEN  
TO THE WORD, AND SO  
DECEIVE YOURSELVES.  
DO WHAT IT SAYS."

Memorize James 1:22 and share with one other person.

