

“Primitive Faith”

Lessons on Faith & Life from the Book of James

Week 1 : Sept 26 - Oct2 “Primitive Endurance” James 1:1-18

Study Reflections - What do you see/notice?

1. What is the difference between trials and temptations?
2. Why does James say that trials/testing are actually good for your faith?
3. Compare the crown of life in vs. 12 with what Paul writes about running the race in 1 Corinthians 9:24-25.
4. How have trials/testing shaped your faith?

Week 2 : October 3-9 - “Primitive Anger” James 1:19-27

Study Reflections - What do you see/notice?

1. What are his thoughts/teachings on anger?
2. What is the height of self-deception to James?
3. Why might James focus on caring for orphans and widows?
4. How might we work towards influencing the world rather than the world influencing us?

Week 3 : October 10-16 - “Primitive Prejudice” James 2:1-13

Study Reflections - What do you see/notice?

1. From this chapter list all the things James says about the poor.
2. In what ways does the rich oppress the poor?
3. In what ways is prejudice or favouring others sin?
4. Devise ways or strategies you/we could ensure all people are honoured.

Week 4 : October 17-23 - “Primitive Proof” James 2:14-26

Study Reflections - What do you see/notice?

1. Does James teaching on Works contradict Paul’s teaching on Faith? (Ephesians 2:1-8)
2. How might these work together or do they?
3. What is the danger of following one without the other?
4. How does James teaching on faith without works being dead, make you feel?

Week 5 : October 24-30 - “Primitive Tongue” James 3:1-12

Study Reflections - What do you see/notice?

1. Why would teachers be held to stricter judgement? Is this fair?
2. Explain what ignites the tongue?
3. Does anyone ever only speak good or only speak evil? How do you navigate James teaching about water sources and trees?
4. Why do you think James is so critical of how people speak?

Week 6 : October 31 - Nov 6 - “Primitive Humility” James 3:13-18

Study Reflections - What do you see/notice?

1. In what way are good actions seen and measured?
2. Where does bitterness and envy come from?
3. Compare 3:17 with Galatians 5:22-23. Differences? Similarities?
4. In what areas is God calling you/us to plant seeds of peace?

Week 7 : November 7-13 - “Primitive Passion” James 4:1-10

Study Reflections - What do you see/notice?

1. Is James speaking of literal “murder” to get what we want? Or more of an emotional or spiritual sense?
5. Where is this occurring in our world today?
6. In verses 7-10 James speaks about humility. How has the church been arrogant?
7. How might the church confess and grieve.

Week 8 : November 14-20 - “3 Primitive Warnings” James 4:11- 5:6

Study Reflections - What do you see/notice?

1. Do you think we have an issue with judging others? How?
2. If God’s will overrides our plans for our lives, how does that affect our planning?
3. Why do you think James comes down so hard on the rich?
4. If we took these 3 warnings to heart, what would change?

Week 9 : November 21-27 - “Primitive Patience & Prayer” James 5:7-20

Study Reflections - What do you see/notice?

1. In what way does James refer to patience in this section?
2. Does the power of prayer guarantee healing? Why or Why Not?
3. Vs. 19-20 How far can/should one go in restoring one who is going “astray?”
When might such help become “meddling?”
4. What have you learned/applied to your life In reading/working through James?