

Living the Way: A study of the book of James  
January 11, 2026 Discussion Guide  
Scripture reading: James 1:1-12

**CHECK UP:**

- \*Memory Work: How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! - Psalm 133:1
- \*What decision and/or commitment did you follow through on this past week?

**OPEN:**

- What was a highlight in your week this past week? What was a particular challenge you had?
- How did you mature individually, hold on to another believer, or go make an impact this past week?

**READ and DISCUSS: James 1:1-12**

- Being as honest as you can, how do you tend to let adversity in your life impact your faith?
  - o What does James teach is a benefit of facing difficulty?
  - o Why are Christians able to have joy in the midst of adversity?
- What does this passage say about how we should face adversity?
  - o What is wisdom? (see Proverbs 2:6)
  - o Why is wisdom essential for facing adversity?
  - o Why would double mindedness be antithetical to living wisely?
- What will eventually happen to the wealth of a rich person?
  - o Why is that important to remember?
- When you face adversity, trials, difficult decisions etc... what is your "go to" response?
  - o How does James challenge how you might instinctively react to adversity?
- Based on this text, how would you answer someone who asks why God allows his people to go through trials and difficulties?

**APPLY:**

- What adversities are you facing in life right now?
  - o What good has come from past adversity in your life?
  - o How can/should trials impact our relationship with God?
  
- How do you struggle to trust God with "the way" of your life?
  - o NEXT STEP: How do you need to live wisely this week?

**Memory Work:**

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

**Next Week's Reading:**

James 1:13-18