

SAME TEAM

Book of James Study Program



BACKGROUND:

James now moves on to explain how we should treat one another. Compassion must be the sign of our allegiance to Christ, as we serve others. All people have value, and our attitudes toward others speak loudly about the condition of our hearts. Service is a key function of the Christian walk; our actions allow others to see clearly our devotion to Christ.

DAY 1: READ JAMES 2:1-7

1. How do you respond, to those whom you encounter, who appear homeless or unkempt?
2. How do you respond to those who obviously have means and/or power?
3. How do people respond to you?
4. How is God's economy upside down from the world's idea of success?

Pray: Father, let me always see people as You see them. Let me be drawn to people who are rich in faith, rather than to those who possess wealthy riches. Help me to be rich in faith as I continue to grow to be more like You. Amen.

DAY 2: READ JAMES 2:8-13.

1. How have you experienced freedom in your spiritual life?
2. In what ways do you love your neighbor?
3. In what ways are you having trouble loving your neighbor?
4. What does the phrase "mercy triumphs over judgment" mean to you?

Pray: Lord, help me to live mercifully, always looking for ways to show Your grace to others. Teach me to love others every day, and to represent You to a lost world. Soften my heart as I serve You. Amen.

DAY 3: READ ROMANS 2:1-11.

1. Would you (or those around you) consider you to be judgmental? Why do you answer the way you do?
2. Where are you most likely to find fault with others?
3. How does God speak about those who presume to judge others?
4. Ask God to show you areas and situations where you might be judgmental. Be intentional to repent and turn from that natural inclination.

Pray: God, I am sorry that I have a tendency to be judgmental and prideful, even about very trivial matters. Help me, Lord, to see that I am no better than any other person, and that You are the only one who has the right to judge at all. Amen.

DAY 4: READ PSALM 103: 1-22.

1. As you read this psalm, what were your immediate responses?
2. How do you see God's love manifested for you and for others?
3. If God cares for the oppressed, how should we respond to those we encounter who are oppressed? Do you find that easy or difficult? Why do you answer the way you do?
4. Read verse 13 again. How does God show you compassion?

Pray: Father, I am so grateful that You show compassion to me, and do not give me the punishment I deserve. Lord, teach me to be compassionate and understanding with others. Help me learn to listen for words that are not said, and minister to the heart. Amen.