

# JAMES

## Inductive Bible Study

- PRINT AND TEACH
- IN-DEPTH BOOK STUDY
- UNIT ASSESSMENT
- ANSWER KEY

... of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus:

2 ~~Grace~~ to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be blameless before Him. In love

5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the

7 ~~grace~~ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

8 which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight

9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him

10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, in the heavens and things on the

11 ~~earth~~ so we have obtained an inheritance

*Handwritten notes:* "To say good things about." (in red), "riches + inheritance" (in red), "heavenly places in Christ" (circled in blue), "grace" (underlined in blue), "redemption" (circled in purple), "riches" (circled in green), "grace" (circled in blue), "in the heavens and things on the" (circled in blue).





*An Encounter In*

# JAMES

*An Inductive Bible Study*



# Table of Contents

Terms of Use .....	5
Teacher's Notes .....	6
Keyword Bookmarks .....	12-13

	Student Pages	Answer Key
- Prewrite: Those Christians.....	15 .....	42
- Passage 1: James 1:1-15 .....	16 .....	43
- Gather the Facts, Think and Explain, Reflection Time		
- Passage 2: James 1:16-27 .....	19 .....	46
- Gather the Facts, Think and Explain, Reflection Time		
- Passage 3: James 2:1-11 .....	22 .....	49
- Gather the Facts, Think and Explain, Reflection Time		
- Passage 4: James 2:12-26 .....	25 .....	52
- Gather the Facts, Think and Explain, Reflection Time		
- Passage 5: James 3:1-18 .....	28 .....	55
- Gather the Facts, Think and Explain, Reflection Time		
- Passage 6: James 4:1-17 .....	31 .....	58
- Gather the Facts, Think and Explain, Reflection Time		
- Passage 7: James 5:1-20 .....	34 .....	61
- Gather the Facts, Think and Explain, Reflection Time		
- Post-write: These Christians.....	37 .....	64
- A Letter from James (Summary) .....	38 .....	65
- James at a Glance (Theme) .....	39 .....	66
- James Test .....	40 .....	67

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# Teacher's Notes

## **Inductive Study Method:**

There are 3 ingredients to using the inductive method to study the Bible:

1. Observation, What does it say?
2. Interpretation, What does it mean?
3. Application, What does it mean for me?

For each passage, there are 4 activities designed around these three principles:

### **Observation:**

- ~ Read the passage given and mark the key words, writing comments as you read.\*
- ~ Complete the "Gather the Facts" page.

### **Interpretation:**

- ~ Answer the questions on the "Think and Explain" page.

### **Application:**

- ~ Write a paragraph for the "Reflection Time" page about what the passage means for you. Apply it to your own life.

*Each activity is designed to take 15-25 minutes*

## **Intro and Culmination Activities:**

- ~Choosing symbols for each key word listed on bookmark to use throughout study
- ~Pre-reading writing prompt
- ~Post-reading writing prompt
- ~Book at a Glance (Finding the theme)
- ~A Letter From Paul (Summarizing)
- ~3 Tests, chapters 1-4, chapters 5-8, chapters 9-16

# Church or Sunday School Use:

Any part of this study can be used independently.

If you are limited on time, I would recommend using the Gather the Facts pages as they are designed to give a full picture of the passages. If there is time to read the passages and mark key words beforehand, students always enjoy being able to draw on the actual text of the Bible and the process of marking enhances their understanding immensely.

\*Passages and verses quoted are in NIV unless otherwise noted.

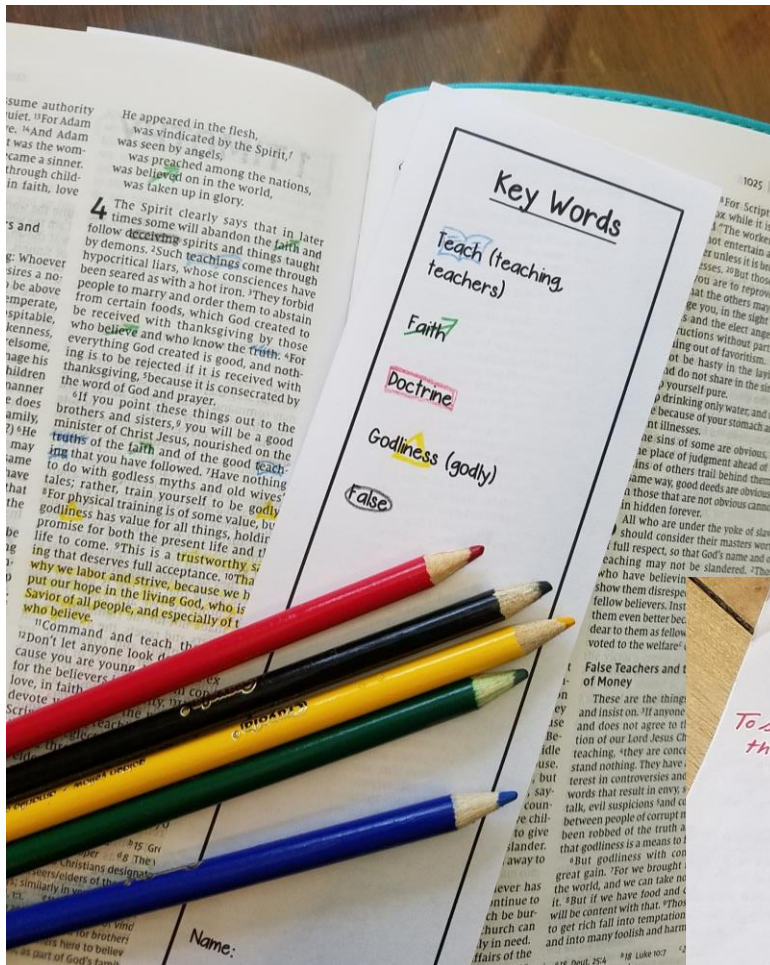


# Instructions for Using Key Words

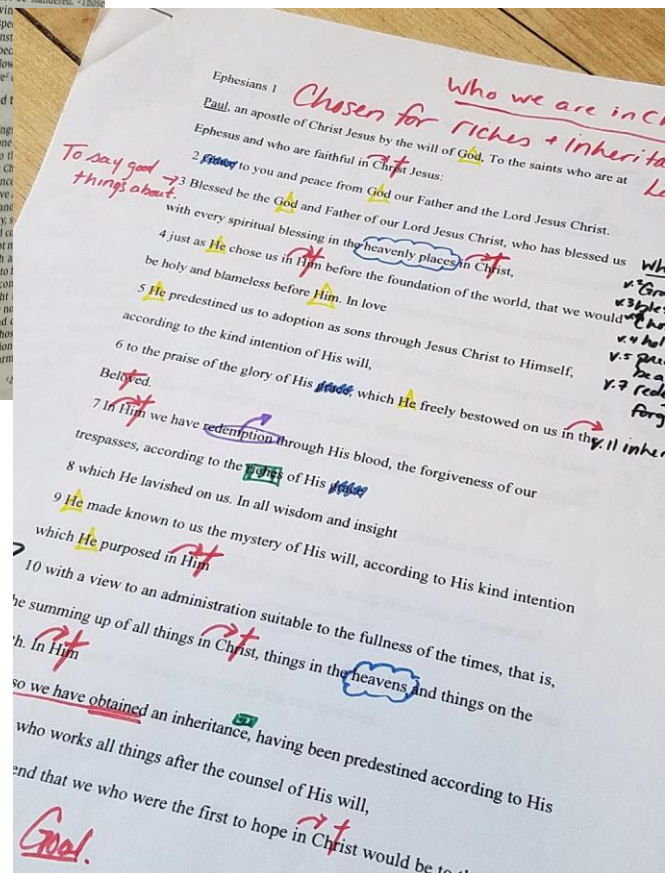
Marking the key words in the text is one of the most important parts of this study. It gets students interacting with the Bible and enables them to see at a glance the themes in each passage. Study works best with NIV version.

Option 1: You may choose to have students mark in their own Bibles.

Colored pencils or colored ballpoint pens work the best, as space is limited in most Bibles and they won't bleed through the page.



Option 2\*: Another option that works well is to print out the passages. Most Bible websites offer printable options, or copy and paste the passage into a Word Doc. This gives you freedom to increase margins, fonts and spacing if desired.



\*Please be aware printing passages is allowed by copyright with some limitations.

# Instructions for Using Key Words

## Continued

The purpose of the key words is to give students a stronger connection with the text through creativity, color and a sensory drawing experience.

### Key Word Bookmarks:

Copy the bookmarks and cut. Each student will need one.

### Text:

Students will need a Bible they can write in OR you may choose to print the text for each student from a site like Biblegateway.com.

(Note: copyright laws allow for printing the text of the Bible, with certain limitations.)

### Key Word Symbols:

Students choose what color/symbol to use for each key word. You can let each student choose for themselves for a more personal experience, or you can develop symbols as a group if you want everyone using the same ones.

### Reading the Passage:

As students read the text, they can use the bookmark to find and mark the keywords.

They can also write comments in the margins on thoughts and observations.

## Key Words

God

Faith

Dead, death

Life

Rich

Poor

Humble

Righteous (righteousness)

Evil

Wise (wisdom)

Law

Judge (judges, judgement, judged)

Persevere (perseverance)

Testing (trials, temptations)

Actions (deeds, works)



# Instructions for Using Gather the Facts

The purpose of the Gather the Facts page is to give students a framework to sort the information in the text through grouping, listing, visualizing, etc.

\*\*\*If you are limited on time, this page is the "meat" of the study and the one that will give students the greatest chance to work with the entire text.

\*\*\*All questions for assessments come from the Gather the Facts pages.

## Graphic Organizer

Various graphic organizers are designed for students to work with the content of the passages in order to clearly see what the text says and gain a deeper understanding of to concepts.

You can choose whether to have students list references with their answers.

The graphic organizers are especially helpful for visual learners and reflective learners.

## Summarize

This section gives students a chance to think about what they've read as a whole, and come up with a theme for the passage.

Choose to have students complete this section independently, in small groups and/or as a class.

Name <u>Answer Key</u> Date _____	
<h3>Gather the Facts</h3> <p>Chapter 1:1-14</p> <p>Directions: Look at the key words in Ephesians 1:1-14 to fill in the chart below.</p>	
<b>God's Actions</b>	<b>We Are</b>
God made Paul an apostle. 1:1, Paul blesses God. 1:3	
God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. 1:3	We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. 1:3
He chose us to be holy and blameless. 1:4	We are chosen to be holy and blameless 1:4
He predestined us to be adopted, to be his children. 1:5	We are predestined to be adopted into God's family. 1:5
He freely gives grace to us. 1:6 He lavished grace on us. 1:7	We have grace and redemption. 1:6-8
He made his will known to us and has kind intentions for us. 1:9	We are predestined for an inheritance. 1:11
He predestined us so we would be to the praise of His glory. 1:11, 12	We are to the praise of His glory. 1:12
	We are sealed with the Spirit of promise. 1:13
<b>Summarize</b>	
What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?	
<u>Answers will vary.</u>	
Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:	
<u>Sample Summary:</u>	
<u>God chose us and gave us every blessing we could every hope for.</u>	
© Littlebird Books <span style="float: right;">An Encounter in Ephesians</span>	

# Instructions for Using Think and Explain

The purpose of the Think and Explain page is to get students thinking about what they read, using background knowledge and bringing their own thoughts and opinions to the study.

If you are limited on time, these pages can be used on their own, but do not provide a thorough overview of the passage. The questions are supplemental to the Gather the Facts pages, engaging thinking on a personal level.

## Questions

All the questions in the Think and Explain pages are short answer. They are most often inviting students to share what they think about what they have read.

These work well as questions for small groups and discussions.

## Answer Key

Answers provided are sample answers. As most of the questions are asking for student's thinking and opinion, they are not designed to be right or wrong answers.

## I Wonder...

This section gives students a chance to practice questioning skills.

Questions may be things the students are truly wondering, or they may ask a question as if they are encouraging someone else to think about a part of the passage.

If desired, have students write factual questions and turn them into a game!


Sometimes students feel they should not question God or the Bible. However, it is through questions that our understanding deepens and as Michael Card says, "God doesn't give us answers, He gives us Himself."

Name Answer Key Date \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE ANSWERS:

## Think and Explain

Chapter 1:1-14



"Bless" means to "say good things about" What happens when God speaks? (Creation in Genesis 1?)  
Bless means to "say good things about" which may seem like just a nice thing to do until you think about what happened during creation: When God says something, that's the way it is!

How does this passage make you feel about yourself? Why?  
Hopefully, reading what God has said about us will give students a different perspective of themselves. We are not just what we see and feel. God has made us holy and blameless, His children who will inherit His riches, we are sealed with the Spirit of promise!

What part does Jesus play in this passage?  
Everything God does for us, He does "in Christ".

What part does the Holy Spirit play in this passage?  
The Spirit seals us, seals the promises that God has given us.

I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage. Then tear along the dotted line and hand in to your teacher.  
Questions will vary.

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An Encounter in Ephesians

## Instructions for Using Reflection Time

The purpose of the Reflection Time is to give students a chance to apply the passages to their own lives, letting God's word speak to their hearts.

In our classroom, we usually did this page on Friday. After studying the passage over the course of the week, students had time to think about what they were reading. Then, Bible time on Friday was a chance to journal privately about what they were thinking and feeling about what God was saying through His word. I was always pleasantly encouraged to see even the least focused of my students fill up pages with what they were reflecting on in God's Word.

While any of the other pages can be used for small and large groups, I would encourage you to let the students keep the thoughts they write here, private. I told my students I would glance at these pages to make sure they were completed, but the thoughts they wrote here were between themselves and God.

Name <u>Answer Key</u>	Date _____
<h1 style="margin: 0;">Reflection Time</h1>	
<p>Take a few moments to think about what you've read. Re-read the section and write your thoughts about what you read. What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?</p>	
<p>Personal reflections will vary.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 400px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	
<p>For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12</p>	
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## Key Words

God

Faith

Dead, death

Life

Rich

Poor

Humble

Righteous (righteousness)

Evil

Wise (wisdom)

Law

Judge (judges, judgement,  
judged)

Persevere (perseverance)

Testing (trials, temptations)

Actions (deeds, works)

Name:

## Key Words

God

Faith

Dead, death

Life

Rich

Poor

Humble

Righteous (righteousness)

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Wise (wisdom)

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Judge (judges, judgement,  
judged)

Persevere (perseverance)

Testing (trials, temptations)

Actions (deeds, works)

Name:

## Key Words

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Judge (judges, judgement,  
judged)

Persevere (perseverance)

Testing (trials, temptations)

Actions (deeds, works)

Name:

Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law  
that gives freedom.

James 2:12

Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law  
that gives freedom.

James 2:12

Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law  
that gives freedom.

James 2:12

Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law  
that gives freedom.

James 2:12



*An Encounter In*

# JAMES

*An Inductive Bible Study*

Studied by: \_\_\_\_\_



Date \_\_\_\_\_

In your experience, what kind of reputation do Christians normally have? Is our reputation good or bad? What would we need to do to improve it?

[illegible]

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 1:1-15

Directions: After reading James 1:1-15 find the author and the audience, then fill in the chart below.

## A Letter:

From: \_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_

If You Lack:

Temptation comes from:

You  
Will Be Mature  
and Complete,  
Not Lacking  
Anything

Testing  
of Your  
Faith

If You Persevere:

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

---

---

---

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

---

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Think and Explain

Chapter 1:1-15

How are we supposed to feel about trials? Do you think the reward James describes is worth the trials?

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What kind of person should not expect anything from God? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How does James describe any riches we might have? What is it that lasts?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Where do our temptations come from? What happens when we give in to them?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

-----

I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Take a few moments to think about what you've read.

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

[illegible]

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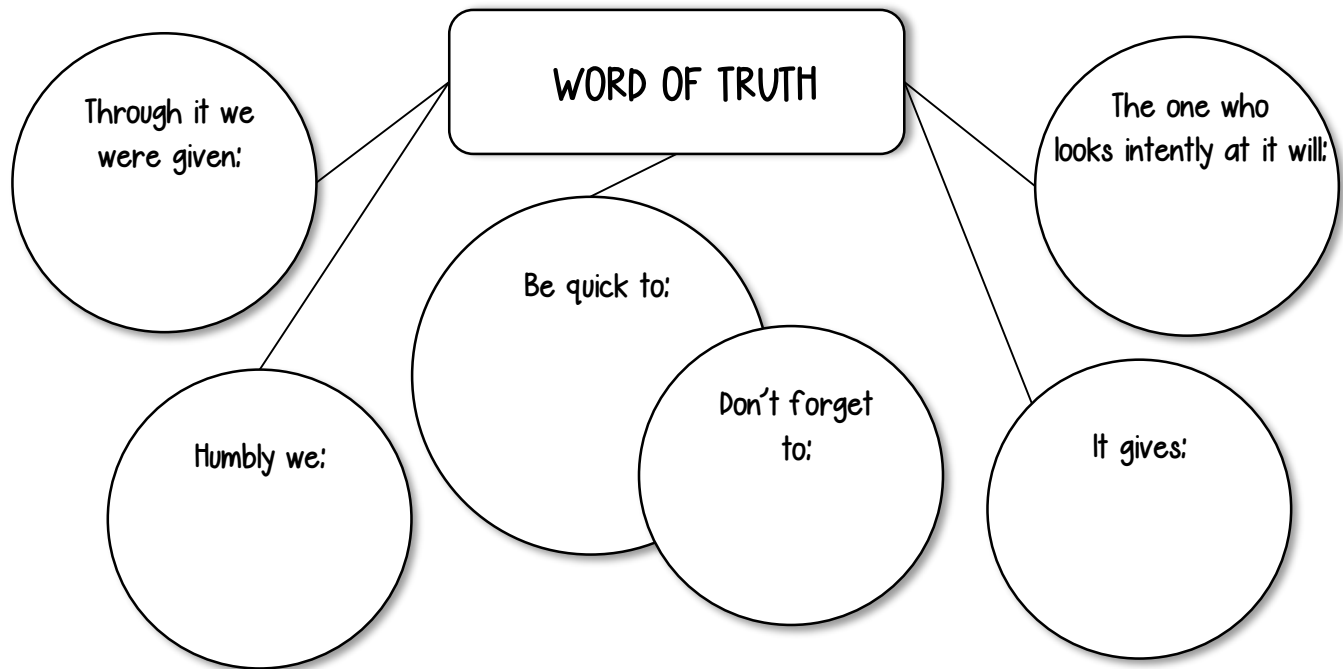
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 1:16-27

Directions: After reading James 1:16-27, fill in the chart with the things James tells us about the word of truth.



## Pure Religion: 1:26-27

To look after \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in their distress.

And to keep from being \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

---

---

---

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

---

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Think and Explain

Chapter 1:16-27

Why do you think we are to be quick to listen and slow to become angry? (verse 19-20)

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---

---

What is just one thing you can do to "do what it says"?

---

---

---

Why do you think James uses the example of a mirror? How is not obeying the word like forgetting what you saw? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

How do you think our tongues are so powerful that they can make our religion worthless?

---

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---

-----

I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

---

---

---

---

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Take a few moments to think about what you've read.

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 2:1-11

Directions: After reading James 2:1-11, list the things James says about the rich and the poor, and what he says about showing favoritism.

## Poor

How you treat them:

But they are:

## Rich

How you treat them:

But they are:

## Favoritism

If you show favoritism, you \_\_\_\_\_ and are convicted by the law as a \_\_\_\_\_.

Whoever keeps the \_\_\_\_\_, and yet stumbles at just one point is \_\_\_\_\_

of breaking \_\_\_\_\_. James 2:9-10

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

---

---

---

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

---

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Think and Explain

Chapter 2: 1-11

How do you think showing favoritism makes us “judges with evil thoughts”?

---

---

---

What do you think it means to truly “Love your neighbor as yourself”?

---

---

---

After reading what James says about the rich and the poor, which would you rather be?

---

---

---

James says that if we show favoritism, we are guilty of breaking the whole law. Explain this in your own words:

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---

---

-----

I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

---

---

---

---



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Take a few moments to think about what you've read.

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

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James 1:5

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 2:14-26

Directions: After reading James 2:14-26, fill in the blanks from James 2:17, then find the examples James gives and fill in the chart below.

## Faith

Faith, not accompanied by \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ .

James 2:17

## Examples

A brother or sister without clothes and food	
Abraham	
Rahab	
The Body	

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

---

---

---

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

---

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Think and Explain

Chapter 2:14-26

Paul tells us that we are justified by faith alone, by no works of our own. How can James say faith without works is dead? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Jesus used examples of a gardener sowing seeds, as well as a mustard seed sized faith. How do these examples help you understand James better? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Paul uses Abraham as an example of being justified apart from works in Romans 4. How does James use the example differently? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Based on what James says about faith and actions, what does that tell you about your own faith?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Take a few moments to think about what you've read.

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 3:1-18

Directions: After reading James 3:1-18, write down what James says to those who want to be teachers.

You Who Want to Teach:

Beware of the Tongue Because:

Real Wisdom

Show it this way: \_\_\_\_\_

It looks like: \_\_\_\_\_

It results in a harvest of \_\_\_\_\_

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

---

---

---

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

---

---



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Think and Explain

Chapter 3:1-18

Explain in your own words how a tongue is like the bit of a horse or the rudder of a ship:

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---

---

James says the tongue can set the whole course of a person's life on fire. What do you think this means?

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---

---

Do you think we should try to tame our tongues? Why or why not?

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---

---

Because our tongue are so dangerous, what do you think we should focus on doing?

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---

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I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

---

---

---

---

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Take a few moments to think about what you've read.

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 4:1-17

Directions: After reading James 4:1-17, fill in the chart

## Desires

They cause us to _____	but we still cannot have what we want. 4:1-2
We don't _____ OR We _____ with wrong _____	We don't receive them. 4:2-3
We plan, boast and brag	But we don't know _____ _____ 4:13-14
But if we: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	God will give you grace. He will come near. He will lift up us. 4:7-10

## Then...

Anyone who knows \_\_\_\_\_  
but does not do it, \_\_\_\_\_ 4:17

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

---



---



---

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

---



---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Think and Explain

Chapter 4:1-17

James says our fights and quarrels come from our desires. Can you think of an example from your own life?

---

---

---

Explain in your own words what God wants from us based on what James tells us in this chapter:

---

---

---

How do you think speaking badly about someone is the same as judging them?

---

---

---

Why do you think James says that if we don't do the good we know we should do, we sin?

---

---

---

-----

I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

---

---

---

---

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Take a few moments to think about what you've read.

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Hebrews 4:12

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 5:1-20

Directions: After reading James 5:1-20, find the examples and reasons for being patient, then list his other instructions in the chart.

## Be Patient!

Examples:

Reasons:

## Other Instructions

Are You Rich?

Are You In Trouble?

Are You Happy?

Are You Sick?

Do You Know Someone  
Wandering?

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

---

---

---

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

---

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Think and Explain

Chapter 5:1-20

Who do you think James is talking to when he talks to the "rich people"?

---

---

---

Why do you think we are to be patient until the Lord's coming?

---

---

---

Why do you think James says in verse 12, "Above all, do not swear..."?

---

---

---

What do you think it means that the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well?

---

---

---

-----

I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

---

---

---

---

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Take a few moments to think about what you've read.

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

2 Timothy 3:16-17



Date \_\_\_\_\_

After studying James, explain some of the things these Christians were known for and the main things James encourages them to do differently.

This image shows a full page of blank white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for writing or drawing. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Even though we know James as a book, it is really a letter from James to Jewish Christians. Summarize what James wrote to them in your own words below.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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Name\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

# James at a Glance

Go back through each Gather the Facts page and write down your summary statement for each passage.  
Then, based on all your passage summaries, write down one statement summarizing James.

Summary	
Passage Summaries	
1:1-15	
1:16-27	
2:1-11	
2:12-26	
3:1-18	
4:1-17	
5:1-20	

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Test

Chapters 1-5

Fill in the Blank: (Complete the sentences below)

1. James says that the \_\_\_\_\_ of your faith results in \_\_\_\_\_, then you will be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ not lacking anything.
2. We are to be quick to listen to the \_\_\_\_\_ and to do what it says. If we look intently at it, it will bring \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Pure religion is looking after \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and keeping ourselves from being \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. If you show favoritism, you sin and are guilty of breaking \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ without actions is \_\_\_\_\_. Just like a body without a \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Beware of the \_\_\_\_\_ because, like a \_\_\_\_\_ in a forest, it can set someone's whole \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.
7. James encourages us to be patient like the \_\_\_\_\_ growing crops because the \_\_\_\_\_ is near!

Multiple Choice: (Choose the best answer)

- |                                      |                                |  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 7. Real wisdom results in            | 8. Our evil desires make us    | 9. Why are we to persevere through     |
| a) Being able to control the tongue. | a) Fight, quarrel and kill.    | trials?                                |
| b) Riches.                           | b) Ask God with wrong motives. | a) So we do not sin                    |
| c) Righteousness.                    | c) Plan, boast and brag.       | b) Because we will get a crown of life |
|                                      | d) All of the above.           | c) Because the tongue is evil          |

Short Answer:

Explain what pure religion is in your own words:

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*An Encounter In*

# JAMES

*An Inductive Bible Study*

# Answer Key



Date \_\_\_\_\_

In your experience, what kind of reputation do Christians normally have? Is our reputation good or bad? What would we need to do to improve it?

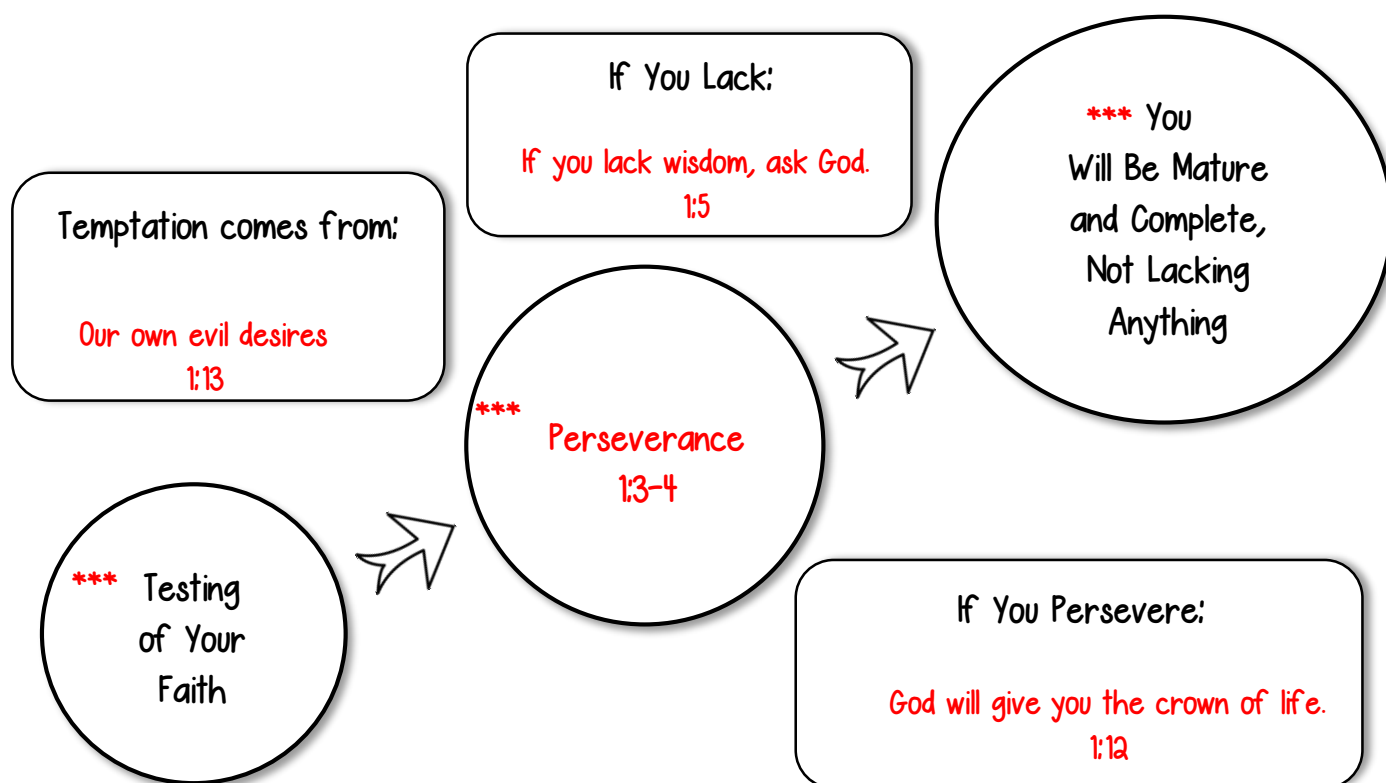
Answers will vary.

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 1:1-15

Directions: After reading James 1:1-15 find the author and the audience, then fill in the chart below.

## A Letter:

From: James 1:1To: The twelve tribes, the Jews (Jewish Christians) 1:1

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

Answers will vary.

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

Sample Summary: James begins his letter to the Jews encouraging them to go through the testing of their faith with joy because of the reward that will be given to them.

Name Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE ANSWERS:

# Think and Explain

Chapter 1:1-15

How are we supposed to feel about trials? Do you think the reward James describes is worth the trials?

Explain: We are to have joy in our trials because they bring perseverance, maturity and completeness. I know by faith that trials are worthwhile, but I still don't like them!

What kind of person should not expect anything from God? Why?

The person who doubts should not expect anything from God. I am not sure why, but I know that the one thing God wants from us is faith.

How does James describe any riches we might have? What is it that lasts?

James says that our riches are like wildflowers that wither in the sun. What lasts is the crown of life God gives us when we persevere.

Where do our temptations come from? What happens when we give in to them?

Temptations come from our evil desires. If we do not persevere, they lead to sin and then death.

## I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

Questions will vary.

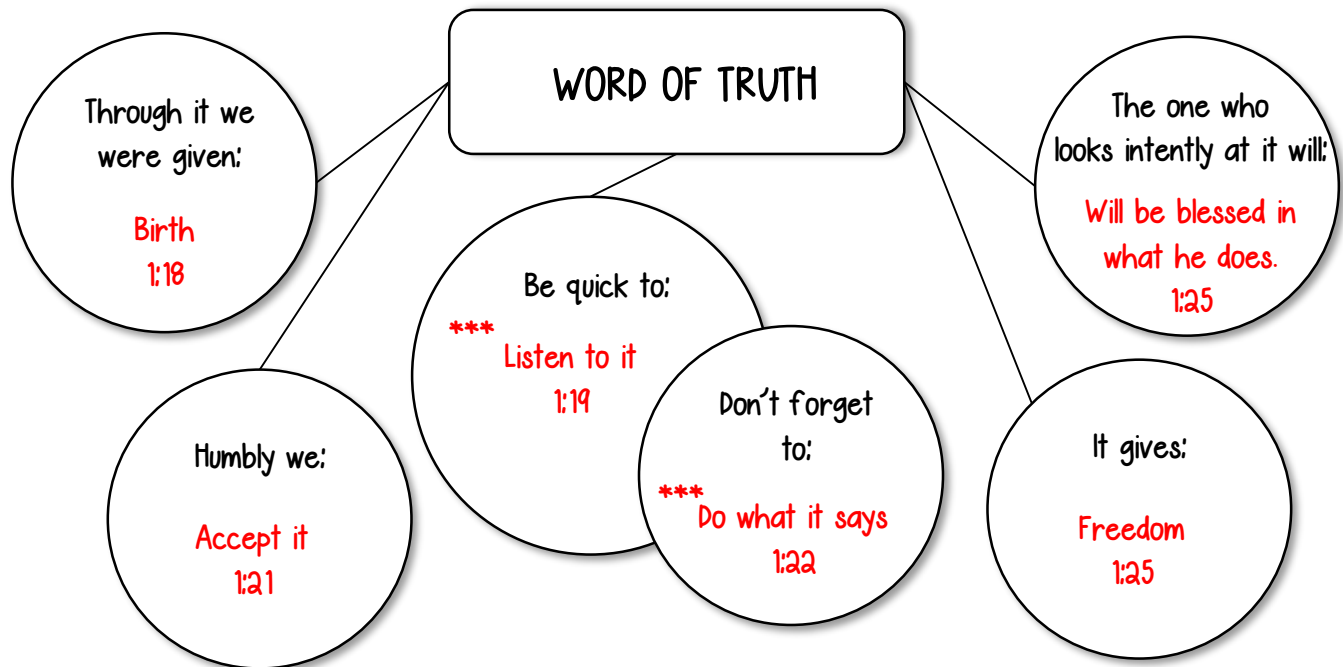




# Gather the Facts

Chapter 1:16-27

Directions: After reading James 1:16-27, fill in the chart with the things James tells us about the word of truth.



## Pure Religion:

1:26-27

\*\*\* To look after orphans and widows in their distress.  
And to keep from being polluted by the world.

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

Answers will vary.

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

Sample Summary:

James describes what the word does in our lives, and what pure religion is.

Name Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE ANSWERS:

# Think and Explain

Chapter 1:16-27

Why do you think we are to be quick to listen and slow to become angry? (verse 19-20)

Anger does not bring the righteous life God wants.

What is just one thing you can do to "do what it says"?

Answers will vary.

Why do you think James uses the example of a mirror? How is not obeying the word like forgetting what you saw?

I think that the more we read God's word, the more we understand who we are in Christ. I think through trying to do what the word says, we come face to face with both our weakness and the power of God as he transforms us into his likeness.

How do you think our tongues are so powerful that they can make our religion worthless?

I think words are easy to say, and if we let ourselves speak out of the sinfulness in us, we say things we don't mean and things that make us look like hypocrites, not honoring God and the new life he gave us.

I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

Questions will vary.



# Gather the Facts

Chapter 2:1-11

Directions: After reading James 2:1-11, list the things James says about the rich and the poor, and what he says about showing favoritism.

## Poor

How you treat them:

You do not give seats. 2:3

You insult them. 2:6

But they are:

\*\*\* Chosen by God to be rich in faith and inherit the kingdom. 2:5

## Rich

How you treat them:

You show special attention and give special seats. 2:3

But they are:

The rich are exploiting you and dragging you to court. 2:6

The rich are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong. 2:7

## Favoritism

\*\*\* If you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as a lawbreaker.  
Whoever keeps the whole law, and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty  
of breaking all of it. James 2:9-10

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

Answers will vary.

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

Sample Summary:

James warns against favoritism among believers.

Name Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE ANSWERS:

# Think and Explain

Chapter 2: 1-11

How do you think showing favoritism makes us “judges with evil thoughts”?

I think when we treat one person better than another, we are showing how much we do or don't value them. This is judgement that is not based on God's love, kindness and truth.

What do you think it means to truly “Love your neighbor as yourself”?

It might mean to treat everyone as we ourselves would want to be treated, however this doesn't seem to always work! I think what James might mean is that we are to see others as God sees them and treat them like that.

After reading what James says about the rich and the poor, which would you rather be?

Answers will vary.

James says that if we show favoritism, we are guilty of breaking the whole law. Explain this in your own words:

Answers will vary.

## I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

Questions will vary.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

James 1:5

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 2:14-26

Directions: After reading James 2:14-26, fill in the blanks from James 2:17, then find the examples James gives and fill in the chart below.

## Faith

\*\*\* Faith, not accompanied by action OR works is dead.

James 2:17

## Examples

A brother or sister without clothes and food	Help with physical needs, not just words. 2:15-16
Abraham	Showed his faith by offering Isaac on the altar. 2:21-22 (His faith was made complete by what he did.)
Rahab	Was considered righteous when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them in a different direction. 2:25
The Body	*** A body without a spirit is dead. 2:26

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

Answers will vary.

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

Sample Summary:

James explains that faith without works is dead. Living faith is made complete by what we do.



SAMPLE ANSWERS:

# Think and Explain

Chapter 2:14-26

Paul tells us that we are justified by faith alone, by no works of our own. How can James say faith without works is dead? This is a really controversial part of the Bible, yet I think Paul and James would agree.

Paul is telling us that we need only faith to be justified by God, and James says if that faith is real, it will grow into actions because when we really believe something, we act accordingly.

Jesus used examples of a gardener sowing seeds, as well as a mustard seed sized faith. How do these examples help you understand James better? I think the example of seeds helps a lot when trying to understand James. If you plant a seed and nothing grows, that seed is worthless. But if you plant a seed and it grows into a tree that gives lots of fruit, it is clear that seed was alive and well!

Paul uses Abraham as an example of being justified apart from works in Romans 4. How does James use the example differently? Paul is addressing the people who are saying Christians needed to be circumcised to be saved. He says NO! Faith alone saves us. James says that Abraham, having faith, showed it by offering Isaac to God.

Based on what James says about faith and actions, what does that tell you about your own faith?

Answers will vary.

## I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

Questions will vary.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 3:1-18

Directions: After reading James 3:1-18, write down what James says to those who want to be teachers.

## You Who Want to Teach:

### Beware of the Tongue Because:

It is like a horse's bit, or a ship's rudder: it is small, but it makes great boasts. 3:5

\*\*\* It is like a fire in a forest and can set the whole course of someone's life on fire. 3:6

It is a world of evil, corrupting the whole person. 3:6

It is set on fire by hell. 3:6

It is untamable, a restless evil, full of poison. 3:7-8

Both praise and cursing come from it. 3:9-10

### Real Wisdom

Show it this way: By a good life, with deeds done in humility 3:13

It looks like: Pure, peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit,  
impartial and sincere 3:17

\*\*\* It results in a harvest of righteousness 3:18

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

Answers will vary.

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

Sample Summary: James warns teachers because the tongue is dangerous, but showing wisdom through deeds  
results in righteousness.

Name Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE ANSWERS:

# Think and Explain

Chapter 3:1-18

Explain in your own words how a tongue is like the bit of a horse or the rudder of a ship:

It is small and can direct all of what we do, just like the horse and the ship.

James says the tongue can set the whole course of a person's life on fire. What do you think this means?

Well, I think we use our tongues to say yes or no to things and that directs our lives. I also think that by what we talk about we attract certain people and cause others to avoid us. The people in our lives are also huge influences in what we do and the opportunities we have.

Do you think we should try to tame our tongues? Why or why not?

James says the tongue is not tamable, so I guess trying to tame it would just be frustrating.

Because our tongue are so dangerous, what do you think we should focus on doing?

I think what James is saying is that if we want to show our wisdom or lead others, we should do it by having a good life that is pure, peace-loving, considerate, etc.

## I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

Questions will vary.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

James 1:5

Name Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 4:1-17

Directions: After reading James 4:1-17, fill in the chart

## Desires

*** They cause us to <u>fight, quarrel, kill and covet</u>	but we still cannot have what we want. 4:1-2
We don't <u>ask</u> OR We <u>ask</u> with wrong <u>motives</u>	We don't receive them. 4:2-3
We plan, boast and brag	But we don't know <u>what will</u> <u>happen tomorrow</u> 4:13-14
But if we: *** <u>submit to God</u> <u>resist the Devil</u> <u>come near to God</u> <u>wash hands and purify hearts</u> <u>grieve, mourn and wail</u> <u>humble ourselves before the Lord</u>	God will give you grace. He will come near. He will lift up us. *** 4:7-10

## Then...

Anyone who knows the good he should do  
but does not do it, sins 4:17

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

Answers will vary.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

Sample Summary:

James explains why we don't get what we want.

Name Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE ANSWERS:

# Think and Explain

Chapter 4:1-17

James says our fights and quarrels come from our desires. Can you think of an example from your own life?

Answers will vary.

Explain in your own words what God wants from us based on what James tells us in this chapter:

I think God wants us to be humble and walk in faith and in the desires he puts in our hearts rather than following our selfish desires.

How do you think speaking badly about someone is the same as judging them?

I guess I only speak badly about people I have made judgements about, meaning that I have found them "unworthy" in some way. This shows by my words that I have become their judge, when that is not my job!

Why do you think James says that if we don't do the good we know we should do, we sin?

Based on the beginning of James, we show our faith through our actions. If we are doing the good things God has given us to do, we are showing that we trust him. If we are following our desires instead, we are showing our lack of faith.

I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

Questions will vary.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Take a few moments to think about what you've read.

Re-read the passage and write your thoughts about what you read.

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

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Hebrews 4:12



Name Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Gather the Facts

Chapter 5:1-20

Directions: After reading James 5:1-20, find the examples and reasons for being patient, then list his other instructions in the chart.

## Be Patient!

Examples:

\*\*\* Like the farmer growing crops. 5:7  
Like the prophets/Job. 5:10-11

Reasons:

\*\*\* The Lord's coming is near! 5:8  
Those who persevere are blessed. 5:10-11

## Other Instructions

Are You Rich?	Weep and wail because your wealth has rotted, etc. 5:1-6
Are You In Trouble?	Pray. 5:13
Are You Happy?	Sing songs of praise. 5:13
Are You Sick?	Call elders to pray and anoint with oil. Confess sins to one another. 5:14-16
Do You Know Someone Wandering?	Bring him back to the truth. 5:19-20

## Summarize

What do you notice about your notes above? What stands out to you? What questions do you have?

Answers will vary.

Write one sentence that sums up what this section is about:

Sample Summary:

James gives instructions until the Lord's coming.

Name Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE ANSWERS:

# Think and Explain

Chapter 5:1-20

Who do you think James is talking to when he talks to the "rich people"?

I think James is talking to anyone who has hoarded, not treated employees fairly, and/or lived in self-indulgence.

Why do you think we are to be patient until the Lord's coming?

I think right now it is a constant struggle to live by faith and not follow our evil desires. After the Lord's coming, we won't need to be patient anymore, because we will be righteous and no longer have to struggle with sin.

Why do you think James says in verse 12, "Above all, do not swear..."?

I have no idea! Apparently there is something about swearing by something that sets us up to be condemned.

What do you think it means that the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well?

From what James says here, it seems there is a close connection between sin and sickness. This is pretty unconventional thinking in this age of modern medicine, but it is interesting that James does not tell sick people to go see a doctor!

## I Wonder...

Write down a question about the passage.

Questions will vary.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Take a few moments to think about what you've read.

Re-read the passage and write your thoughts about what you read.

What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How can you apply what you read to your own life?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal black ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Name      Answer Key

## Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# These Christians...

After studying James, explain some of the things these Christians were known for and the main things James encourages them to do differently.

Answers will vary

Name Answer Key

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# A Letter From James

Even though we know James as a book, it is really a letter from James to Jewish Christians. Summarize what James wrote to them in your own words below.

Dear Christians,

Answers will vary

Your brother,  
James

# James at a Glance

Go back through each Gather the Facts page and write down your summary statement for each passage.  
Then, based on all your passage summaries, write down one statement summarizing James.

Summary	
<p>Answers will vary.</p> <p>Sample Answer:</p> <p>James writes to Jewish Christians explaining some of the things they are missing and encouraging them to be patient and joyful until the Lord's coming.</p>	
Passage Summaries	
1:1-15	James begins his letter to the Jews encouraging them to go through testing of faith with joy because of the reward that will be given to them.
1:16-27	James describes what the word does in our lives, and what pure religion is.
2:1-11	James warns against favoritism among believers.
2:12-26	James explains that faith without works is dead. Living faith is made complete by what we do.
3:1-18	James warns teachers because the tongue is dangerous, showing wisdom through deeds results in righteousness.
4:1-17	James explains why we don't get what we want.
5:1-20	James gives instructions until the Lord's coming.

\*All test questions come from  
the Gather the Facts  
pages and are marked with \*\*\*.

# Test

Chapters 1-5

Fill in the Blank: (Complete the sentences below)

- James says that the testing of your faith results in perseverance, then you will be mature and complete not lacking anything.
- We are to be quick to listen to the word of truth and to do what it says. If we look intently at it, it will bring freedom.
- Pure religion is looking after orphans and widows and keeping ourselves from being polluted by the world.
- If you show favoritism, you sin and are guilty of breaking the whole law.
- Faith without actions is dead. Just like a body without a spirit is dead.
- Beware of the tongue because, like a fire in a forest, it can set someone's whole life on fire.
- James encourages us to be patient like the farmer growing crops because the Lord's coming is near!

Multiple Choice: (Choose the best answer)

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 7. Real wisdom results in                          | 8. Our evil desires make us                           | 9. Why are we to persevere through                                      |
| a) Being able to control the tongue.               | a) Fight, quarrel and kill.                           | trials?   |
| b) Riches.   | b) Ask God with wrong motives.                        | a) So we do not sin   |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> c) Righteousness. | c) Plan, boast and brag.                              | <input checked="" type="radio"/> b) Because we will get a crown of life |
|  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> d) All of the above. | c) Because the tongue is evil   |

Short Answer:

Explain what pure religion is in your own words:

Answers will vary.

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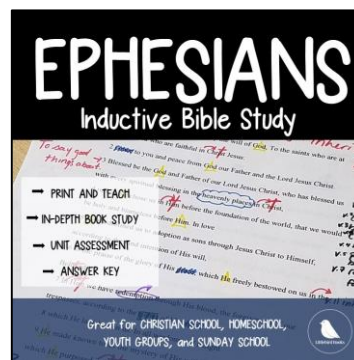
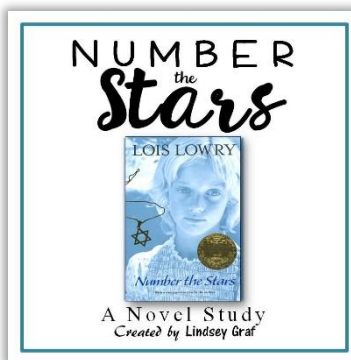
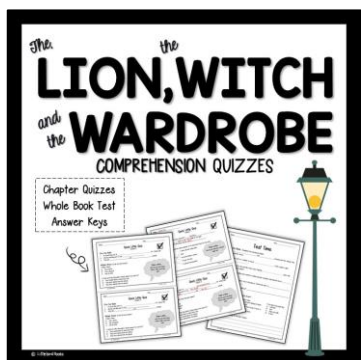


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## Thank You!

To all the amazing artists who created the design elements and fonts used in this product, a big thanks!

