

Daily Bible Study and Prayers for the week of January 6, 2025

(Pastor Dan's answers will be on the back of next week's DBS.)

Monday - Read James 1:1-8 and 12

Question – James was one of Jesus' earthly half-brothers (Mt. 13:53-57). But what does James humbly call himself in v. 1? For what reason does James tell us to be joyful when we face trials and the **“testing of your faith”**? When we pray, what must we never do?

Prayer For Today – Pray for someone you know who is going through a testing of their faith.

Tuesday - Read James 1:9-11

Question – What “high position” do the poor hold in God's eyes? (See James 2:5) What “low position” in God's eyes did the rich in James' day hold? (See James 2:6-7) Be honest with this one (because only you will see your answer): do you put your trust in money to keep you safe and happy?

Prayer For Today – Pray that you would look at your money in the way that God does.

Wednesday - Read James 1:13-18

Question – God does not tempt any of us to sin (v. 13). But, sometimes, God allows us to be tempted by others as a “trial” (from Monday's reading) to develop perseverance in us and to make us **“mature and complete”**. Yet ... Jesus taught us to pray, **“And lead us not into temptation” (Matt. 6:13)**. These two verses seem contradictory. How does 1 Corinthians 10:13 help us make sense of this?

Prayer For Today – Pray that God would give you more grace to resist your temptations.

Thursday - Read James 1:19-27

Question – The temptation to become angry is another “trial” we all face. If a cure to anger is to **“be quick to listen”**, what exactly is James urging us to “listen” to? (Hint: see verse 22.)

Prayer For Today – Pray for the grace to be “slow to speak” when you get angry. (Did you make the connection from v. 19 to v. 26?)

Friday - Read James 2:1-13 and John 7:24

Question – Wow! I guess James' readers were really showing favoritism! Do you treat wealthy people differently than you treat less-than-wealthy people? (Try to slow down and really think about your answer.) What exactly is **“the royal law found in Scripture”** (v. 8)? Why call it “royal”? Do you practice it equally with all?

Prayer For Today – Pray by asking God to show you if you show favoritism.

Saturday - Read James 2:14-26

Question – How do these verses apply to people who believe in Jesus yet who never do anything to help the needy? What do these verses say about their salvation?

Prayer For Today – Pray by allowing God to show you if you fall in this category.

Sunday - Read James 3:1-12 and Matthew 12:34

Question – Can you think of 3 ways that the tongue is a **“fire” (v. 6)**?

Prayer For Today – Pray by thinking back on all of the words you said to others yesterday or (if you're doing this study in the evening) the words you said to others today.