

James 1

NLT

1 This letter is from James, a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. I am writing to the “twelve tribes”—Jewish believers scattered abroad. Greetings!

2 Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. 3 For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. 4 So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

5 If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. 6 But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. 7 Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

9 Believers who are poor have something to boast about, for God has honored them. 10 And those who are rich should boast that God has humbled them. They will fade away like a little flower in the field. 11 The hot sun rises and the grass withers; the little flower droops and falls, and its beauty fades away. In the same way, the rich will fade away with all of their achievements.

12 God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. 13 And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, “God is tempting me.” God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. 14 Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. 15 These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

16 So don’t be misled, my dear brothers and sisters. 17 Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. 18 He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

19 Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. 20 Human anger[g] does not produce the righteousness[h] God desires. 21 So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

22 But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. 23 For if you listen to the word and don’t obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. 24 You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. 25 But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don’t forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

26 If you claim to be religious but don’t control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless. 27 Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.

LEADERSHIP

Web Page: Idahofallschurchofchrist.org

Kyle Allbritten, Elder.....	kallbritten67@gmail.com	618-638-6894
Gary Hunt, Elder	garyhunt136@gmail.com	208-351-8947
Rob Pope, Elder	robpope2@gmail.com	208-757-8175
Andy Burns, Evangelist	apburns8@gmail.com	208-569-9193
Doug Barber – Worship		208-589-3674
Aaron Kays – Building & Grounds.....		505-879-4624
Daniâ King – Benevolence		208-970-5078
Les & Teresa Pope – Special Programs.....		208-524-0238

SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES AND WORKS

Glenn Langston - Blind Ministry	Nathan and Alvin Luther – Philippines	Caleb Odle - Arlington, Texas
Ghana West Africa Water Project	Cimi Kafexhiu - The Church in Durres, Albania	

The Importance of Action

James

If faith can be alive, it can also be dead. Dead faith is belief that does not prove itself in action. It claims to be something when it not. Turning our lives over to God always involves action. If we simply say that we have entrusted our lives to Cod but do not make amends to others or confess our wrongs, then we are only fooling ourselves. Effective recovery involves following through on our profession of faith and good intentions.

Gaining Strength from Hard Trials

James

Strength of character comes from patiently facing life's problems. Since most of us try to avoid our problems, how can we develop strength of character? We can learn to welcome troubles and problems as opportunities to pray for wisdom, to ask God to give us patience, and to learn to depend on him. When we tum to God in times of trial, he can teach us the lessons we need to grow spiritually and make progress in recovery.

True Recovery Lead to Wise Speech

James 1:26

One of the hardest things for us to control is our tongue. James gives very practical advice about how to handle our tongue. We are to ask God for wisdom, be slow to speak, and listen more than we talk. Since our speech is a resection of what is in our hearts, we can check our speech for clues to our inner strengths and weaknesses. As we take our personal inventory and confess ours to God, he will begin to change us inside. Only then will we find our inner change reflected in our words.

insights ABOUT TRUE FAITH

We see in James 1:6-8 that all truly wise decisions are rooted in a vital faith in God. Faith "shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see" (Hebrews 11:1). God wants us to make progress in recovery. When we ask God to help us make wise decisions, we can do so without any trace of doubt, fully believing that whatever we ask for in faith will be granted. God will supply the wisdom we need to make the right decisions for successful recovery.

Insights ABOUT HONEST CONFESSION

As we try to make an honest personal inventory, some of us may have nothing to measure our attitudes or actions against. We may never have had any good role models to follow. In James 1:22-25 we are reminded that God's Word functions like a mirror in our lives. As we read it, we are given a clear picture of what God wants us to be like. It shows us where we don't measure up to God's standards and provides a measuring stick for our personal inventory. But James also warns us not to stop after that inventory. We should not look into God's Word only to walk away and forget what we saw there. To make real progress in recovery we need to enlist God's help and take concrete steps to live according to God's Word.

Admitting our faults to God and to a trustworthy person is an essential step in the recovery process. When t we share our faults with others, we give them the opportunity to uphold us in prayer. James reminds us in James 5:16-20 that confession is an important part of our personal prayer life. God invites us to confess our sins and failures to him through prayer. When we bring our sins and defects of character before God, he starts the healing process in us. Prayer is never a waste of time, it yields amazing results! God responds powerfully when we display our faith by sharing our problems with him.

CALENDAR

Sunday	10:00 am	Bible Study	At the building and live stream
Sunday	11:00 am	Worship	At the building and live stream
Sunday	4:00 pm	Walking the 12 Steps with Jesus	At Pam & Rob's
Wednesday	10:30 am	Senior Breakfast	At Perkins Restaurant
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Bible Study	At the building
Saturday	7:00 pm	Teen Group	At the building
April 2 nd	Family Day & Potluck - We ask all our Idaho Falls family to attend a potluck and family meeting after worship services. The leadership will discuss a variety of topics and answer any questions the family may have. A box and forms have been provided on the foyer table to ask questions or make comments in advance.		
April 15 th	Senior Breakfast 10:30 at the building. Seniors, caregivers, and friends are all invited. (3 rd Saturday each month.)		
May 18-20 th	Montana Men's Retreat: "Creating Communities of Conviction" at the C-N Camp near Augusta, MT. Cost is \$150 for adults, \$90 for under 19. See Bob Queenan with questions.		

PRAYERS

- For Gary Brush and for Melanie. Gary came through his surgery well and is resting at home. Their address is 3461 Rosewood St., Kingman, AZ 86401.
- For Briley, coping with Marfans syndrome.
- For Bobbie Knight. Bobbie Knight, IDOC # 113912, PWCC - 2 C, 1451 Fore Rd, Pocatello 83204.
- For Gary, Rob, Kyle & Andy as they lead our congregation.
- For Ryan Burns, Jordan Allbritten, and Thomas Mullinaux, serving in the armed forces. Jordan would appreciate letters of encouragement: Jordan Allbritten, 5013 A, Fort Sill, OK 73503.
- For our widows: Myrna, Ella, Miriam, Louise, Sallye, & Carolyn.

The Church of Christ in Idaho Falls

March 26, 2023

Welcome!

We're a bible-based congregation of Christians meeting in Idaho Falls to praise and worship the one God and to support and encourage each other. All are welcome! Please join us in our worship services and classes.



Meditation for Today

The call today from God through the Apostle James to the people of God is that we MUST move beyond being happy, comfortable or content with just hearing what the Word of God says, but that we MUST move to a place in our faith where we not only hear but obey that which we have heard from God. Talk is cheap! Faith without works is dead! We know that the scripture declares that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. Yes, this is how we obtain faith but in order for our faith to grow there has to be a daily and continual process called (transformation of the mind) through the Word of God which in turns teaches and helps us to obey what we have heard in the Word of God.

Online Bulletin is available at our website <https://ifcocminister.wixsite.com/mysite>