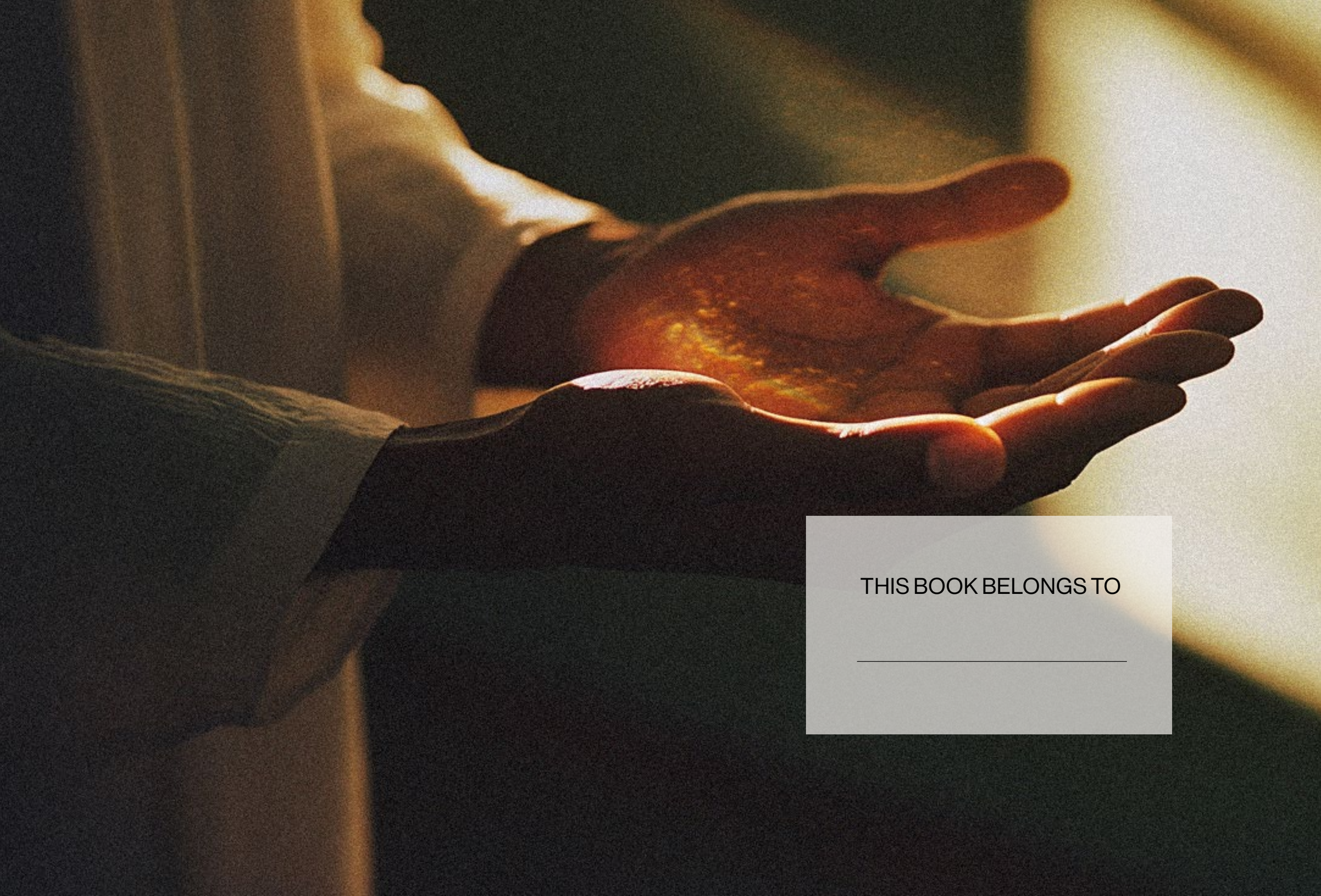
A large white backdrop is set up on a tennis court, held by two silver metal stands. The backdrop features the title 'THE BOOK OF James' in green text. 'THE' and 'BOOK' are in a bold, sans-serif font, while 'OF' is in a smaller sans-serif font. 'James' is written in a large, elegant script font. Below the title is the subtitle 'LIVING IN LIGHT OF THE KINGDOM' in a smaller, all-caps sans-serif font. The background consists of a chain-link fence and a dense line of green trees under an overcast sky.

# THE BOOK OF *James*

LIVING IN LIGHT OF THE KINGDOM





THIS BOOK BELONGS TO

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**THE  
BOOK  
OF**  
*James*  
LIVING IN LIGHT OF THE KINGDOM

# HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

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This resource will follow along for 14 weeks as we examine the Book of James and its implications for followers of Christ.

## CONTENT

Each week includes a space for notes from the weekly teaching, as well as a daily Bible reading plan with practices of prayer and Examen for each week. We've also included a weekly family reading plan that focuses on one passage of scripture in addition to the James passage with questions for engaging with your family or fellowship.

## TAKE NOTES

This 14-week series will walk you through selected verses from the text. Each week, we have provided space for you to record your thoughts or notes from the teaching.

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## BIBLE READING PLAN

Each week, a Bible reading plan emphasizes key themes from the passage of James. The reading plan includes five days of thematic readings, one day for catching up on the week, and one day to look forward to the following week's passage. In addition to the reading plan, we've included a morning practice for reading and an evening practice of prayer through Examen.

## FAMILY READING PLAN

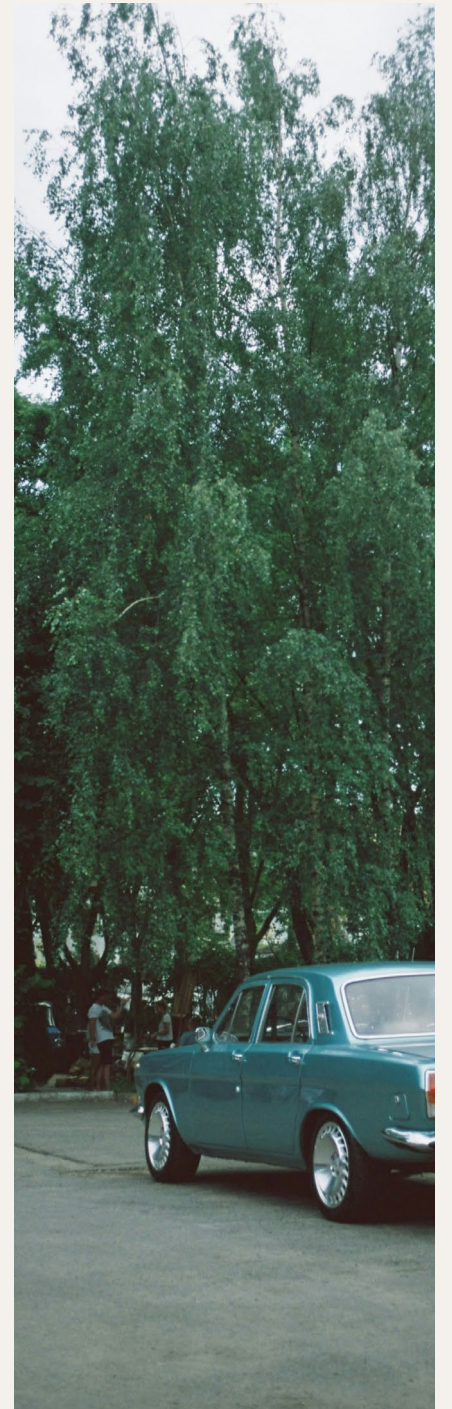
To spur families and groups to engage in this series, we've created a family reading plan that includes the passage of scripture for the week plus an additional passage of scripture (often a story or narrative). We intend to help families engage in meaningful conversation from this series about how we can live the Way of Jesus daily. We've also included three questions to help drive conversation and engagement.

## VERSES TO MEMORIZE

Scripture memorization is vital to our walk as disciples of Jesus. We have provided select verses for you to memorize throughout the series. Memorizing scripture strengthens and anchors our faith in Christ.

## WEEKLY TABLE LITURGY

We are to practice our Christian life in community. The more you gather around the table, the more formative this series will be for you. We have included a table liturgy for you to participate in with others as you gather around the table. You are encouraged to use this liturgy as a practice to help shape your discipleship and your experience with others (page 117).





# BACKGROUND ON JAMES



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The Book of James is considered the first book written in the New Testament. Although there is some controversy around the exact dating and authorship of the book, modern scholars agree the author of the letter is James, the half-brother of Jesus, and they agree it was written before 62 AD when James was martyred. The Book of James appeals to believers today for its practicality, relatively short nature, and use of metaphors, which makes the themes and ideas easier to remember. Today, James is one of the most quoted books in the New Testament.

James, the half-brother of Jesus, appears only a few times in scripture. He is mentioned in connection with the rest of Jesus' family and their skepticism throughout the Gospels. However, we learn the most about James in the Book of Acts. He is involved in conversations with Paul and Barnabas about the conversion of Gentiles and when Paul returns to Jerusalem from his third missionary journey. Most scholars concur that James was one of the primary leaders in the Jerusalem church. Non-biblical accounts of the time recount James as a pious Jew who maintained deep ties to Jewish practices of prayer and gathering at the Tabernacle even after conversion to Christianity.

Based on the greeting in the letter, James is writing to Jewish Christians scattered throughout the region near Jerusalem. Due to the rising persecution of Jews in Rome, many Jews fled major cities to find refuge. For Jewish Christians, the persecution was twofold – they experienced the Roman persecution of Jews and the Jewish persecution of Christians. For this reason, scholars speculate there was a growing fatigue among Jewish Christians, with some finding it easier to either abandon their Jewish heritage altogether or denounce Christ. James writes to this group of Jewish Christians, encouraging them to persevere and reminding them that real faith produces genuine works.



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James's structure and format differ from those of other New Testament epistles, making it challenging for scholars to identify the letter's form. Scholars agree that James is deeply pastoral, encouraging and challenging believers to endure and live lives that reflect Jesus' radical teachings. Beyond its deep connections and allusions to Jesus' teachings, James is steeped in the Jewish scriptures and contemporary Jewish writings of the day.

The Book of James is primarily concerned with spiritual wholeness. He admonishes followers of Christ to live with wisdom, humility, and a deep concern for the poor and marginalized. Additionally, he seeks the byproduct of the Made Alive life to control one's tongue and engage in proper Christlike community with others. He is concerned that followers of Christ need to speak their allegiance and embody it in their daily and communal lives. James exhorts Christians to practice their faith and to live it out as they endure suffering and persecution. He aims to be an encouragement and a challenge to Christians attempting to walk the Way of Jesus.



"BUT BE DOERS OF THE WORD,  
AND NOT HEARERS ONLY,  
DECEIVING YOURSELVES." JAMES 1:22



# WEEKLY READING OUTLINE

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The ALIVE Reading Method can be used to engage with each day's text.

The weekly reading outline includes an opening prayer, scriptures to read each day, the ALIVE Bible reading method, a closing benediction, and an evening examen.

# ALIVE READING METHOD

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The ALIVE Bible reading method adapts John Wesley's Sacred Reading Framework, which we've made into an acronym so it's easier to remember.

John Wesley, an Anglican minister in England and founder of the Methodist movement, believed that the Christian life centered on practical daily disciplines that spurred people to a deeper communion with God and commitment to the cause of the Kingdom. In the mid-17th Century, alongside his brother, Charles Wesley, and many others, John Wesley encouraged lay people to grow in their daily devotion to scripture and prayer with the Lord. He believed this daily devotion led to personal and communal holiness, manifesting in belief and action. His message and method of reading scripture and engaging in community impacted thousands in his lifetime and millions since.





## ALIVE READING METHOD

- A** **Ask** the Lord to speak as you begin (see our written morning prayer on opposite page).
- L** **Listen** by reading slowly and allowing the text to speak to you. Don't be afraid to stop and re-read passages of scripture or reflect on what it means.
- I** **Immerse** yourself in scripture, engage deeply, and feel the emotions of the text. What is calling you to press into? What emotions does it evoke? What truth does it reveal about God, and how will that impact your daily life?
- V** **Voice** to the Lord your need for His grace as you seek to live out His Word. This is a time to present specific prayers for strength and obedience from today's text and to present personal intercessions.
- E** **Engage** with the text through scripture memorization and walk in obedience to the scriptures. Practice memorizing verses from the text that stand out to you. Practice the discipline of obedience by integrating what the Lord revealed to you.



# DAILY PRAYERS

## AM Prayer

Heavenly Father, open my eyes to see You as I read Your Word. As I prepare for my day, help me to prepare my heart to serve and follow You today. Reveal Yourself to me and set my intentions on You today.

*Spend a few moments in silence listening. During this time, be mindful of your body and the wandering places in your mind. Then, offer any prayers you have for the Lord.*

We submit this day to You. In Your Name, amen.

## Closing Benediction

O God Almighty, the Father of Your Christ, Your only begotten Son, would You give me now an undefiled body, a pure heart, and a watchful mind? Grant me the knowledge that always points to the truth, as well as the influence of the Holy Spirit for gaining and enjoying that truth, in Your peace and assurance I ask this through Jesus Christ, by whom is glory to You, in the Holy Spirit forever, amen.

– *Apostolic Constitutions*



# EVENING EXAMEN



St. Ignatius of Loyola developed the Examen to create a discipline of seeing God at work in our lives. The Examen helps you discern and become aware of God's work in your life. We encourage you to practice the Examen daily.

You can pray the Examen at any time of day, but we are encouraging our community to engage in the practice of Examen at the end of the day.

You can decide how to engage in the practice of Examen by either meditating on your responses or journaling them.

## STEPS OF THE EXAMEN

1. **Awareness of God:** As you prepare to enter the Examen, ask God to be present with you in these moments. Reflect on your day, and ask God to bring clarity and understanding.
2. **Express Gratitude:** Look over the last day and note any areas of joy and delight. Think through your work, the people you interacted with, the food you ate, and thank God for these gifts. God is in the details. Where in the last day did you experience God's presence? No moment is too small or mundane to experience God's presence.
3. **Name Your Sorrows:** Review the day and name anything you need to express sorrow for. Were there any actions or regrets from your day? Include things you did and things you thought about.
4. **Seek Forgiveness:** Confess before the Lord your need for His forgiveness. Is there anyone you hurt that you must resolve with and ask for forgiveness?
5. **Ask for Grace:** End your time by thanking God for the gift of life and the day. Ask the Lord to be present with you throughout the day and to follow Christ more.





# WEEKLY FAMILY READING PLAN

We are called to live out the Made Alive life in community. The weekly family reading plan is a resource for families of all shapes and sizes to read scripture together and have spiritual conversations. Each week includes the passage of scripture from James, an additional passage, and some guiding questions to start a conversation.

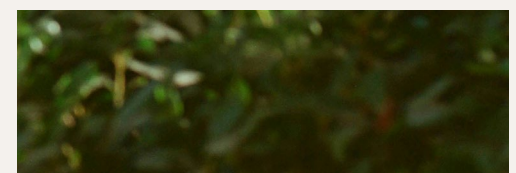
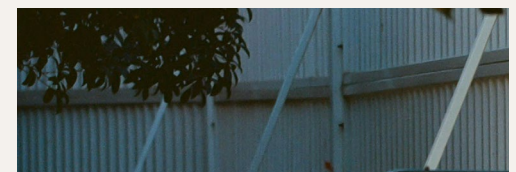
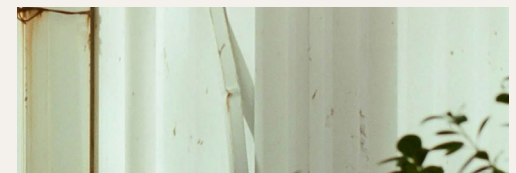
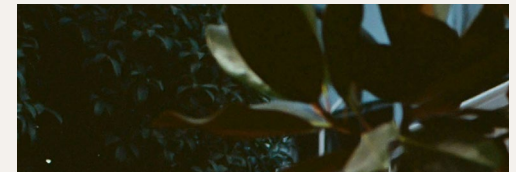
These passages were selected with families and children in mind, so you will notice that sometimes the scripture is repeated from another day in the week. Stories are often repeated for ease of comprehension and conversation.

## **Discussion Questions:**

1. What part of this week's passage reminds you of something you've experienced?
2. Where have you seen someone live this out—or where did you wish you had?
3. How does this passage challenge or encourage us as a family right now?



# WEEK ONE



<sup>1</sup> James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Greetings.

<sup>2</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

## JAMES 1:1-4





# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 6/2	Who is James?	James 1:1-4 Acts 15:12-21 1 Corinthians 15:1-9 Galatians 1:18-19
Tuesday, 6/3	Pure Joy	James 1:1-4 Colossians 1:3-12 1 Peter 1:3-9
Wednesday, 6/4	The Trials of Life	James 1:1-4 1 Peter 4:12-16 Luke 4:1-13 Hebrews 3:7-11
Thursday, 6/5	Endurance	James 1:1-4 Proverbs 27:21 Romans 5:3-4 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4 Hebrews 12:1-3
Friday, 6/6	Lacking in Nothing	James 1:1-4 Matthew 5:43-48 Hebrews 13:20-21 Colossians 1:24-29
Saturday, 6/7	Weekly Catchup	James 1:1-4
Sunday, 6/8	Weekly Review + Preview	James 1:1-12

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 1	Paul + Silas in Prison	James 1:1-4 Acts 16:16-34





# WEEK TWO



<sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. <sup>6</sup> But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; <sup>8</sup> he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

<sup>9</sup> Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, <sup>10</sup> and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. <sup>11</sup> For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him.

## JAMES 1:5-12





# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 6/9	Wisdom	James 1:5-12 Proverbs 2:1-15 Psalm 111 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Tuesday, 6/10	Asking	James 1:5-12 John 15:1-11 1 John 3:21-24 1 John 5:13-15
Wednesday, 6/11	Faith	James 1:5-12 Genesis 22:1-18 Hebrews 11:4-40 Matthew 8:23-26
Thursday, 6/12	Being of one mind	James 1:5-12 Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Mark 11:23-25 Psalm 12 Hebrews 11:1-3
Friday, 6/13	Boasting	James 1:5-12 Jeremiah 9:23-24 Philippians 3:2-21 1 Corinthians 11:16-31
Saturday, 6/14	Weekly Catchup	James 1:5-12
Sunday, 6/15	Weekly Review + Preview	James 1:5-18

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 2	Solomon asks for Wisdom	James 1:5-12 1 Kings 3:1-15





# SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

BLESSED IS THE  
MAN WHO REMAINS  
STEADFAST UNDER TRIAL,  
FOR WHEN HE HAS  
STOOD THE TEST  
HE WILL RECEIVE THE  
CROWN OF LIFE,  
WHICH GOD HAS  
PROMISED TO THOSE  
WHO LOVE HIM.

JAMES 1:12



# WEEK THREE



<sup>13</sup> Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and He Himself tempts no one. <sup>14</sup> But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. <sup>15</sup> Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

<sup>16</sup> Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. <sup>17</sup> Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup> Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

## JAMES 1:13-18



# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 6/16	God is Holy	James 1:13-18 Isaiah 6:1-5 Revelation 4:8-11 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Tuesday, 6/17	The Slippery Slope of Sin	James 1:13-18 1 John 5:13-20 Hebrews 2:14-18 Romans 6
Wednesday, 6/18	The Danger of Desire	James 1:13-18 1 Peter 2:11-12 1 John 2:15-17 1 Timothy 6:6-10
Thursday, 6/19	Stand Firm inTemptation	James 1:13-18 1 Corinthians 10:6-13 Matthew 4:1-11 Matthew 6:9-13
Friday, 6/20	Dwell on God's Goodness	James 1:13-18 Luke 11:11-13 Philippians 4:4-8 Genesis 1
Saturday, 6/21	Weekly Catchup	James 1:13-18
Sunday, 6/22	Weekly Review + Preview	James 1:13-27

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 3	The Temptation of Jesus	James 1:13-18 Matthew 4:1-11





# WEEK FOUR



<sup>19</sup> Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup> for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. <sup>21</sup> Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. <sup>24</sup> For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. <sup>25</sup> But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

<sup>26</sup> If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

## JAMES 1:19-27





# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 6/23	Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak, Slow to Anger	James 1:19-27 Proverbs 16:32 Ecclesiastes 7:9 Proverbs 17:27-28 Proverbs 10:18-21
Tuesday, 6/24	Planted in the Lord	James 1:19-27 Mark 4:2-20 Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 8:6-12
Wednesday, 6/25	Effectual Doers not Forgetful Hearers	James 1:19-27 Romans 8 Matthew 7:24-27 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10
Thursday, 6/26	New Life in Christ	James 1:19-27 1 Peter 1:20-2:5 Colossians 3:5-10
Friday, 6/27	True Religion	James 1:19-27 Exodus 22:21-24 Isaiah 1:16-17 John 15:18-19 2 Corinthians 6:14-18
Saturday, 6/28	Weekly Catchup	James 1:19-27
Sunday, 6/29	Weekly Review + Preview	James 1:19-2:13

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 4	Parable of the Sower	James 1:19-27 Luke 8:4-15





# SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION



**"BUT BE DOERS  
OF THE WORD  
AND NOT HEARERS  
ONLY, DECEIVING  
YOURSELVES."**

**- JAMES 1:22**



# WEEK FIVE



<sup>1</sup> My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. <sup>2</sup> For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, <sup>3</sup> and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," <sup>4</sup> have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup> Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which He has promised to those who love Him? <sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup> Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

<sup>8</sup> If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. <sup>9</sup> But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. <sup>11</sup> For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup> So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup> For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

## JAMES 2:1-13





# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 6/30	Make No Distinctions	James 2:1-13 Leviticus 19:15-16 Acts 15:6-10 Luke 14:15-24
Tuesday, 7/1	The Glory of Christ	James 2:1-13 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 1 Timothy 3:16 Philippians 3:17-21
Wednesday, 7/2	Poor in Spirit	James 2:1-13 Luke 16:19-31 Matthew 5:3 1 Corinthians 1:26-29
Thursday, 7/3	The Royal Law	James 2:1-13 Matthew 5:17-20 Deuteronomy 5:1-21 Galatians 3:10-29
Friday, 7/4	Love Command	James 2:1-13 Matthew 22:34-40 Galatians 5:13-14 Leviticus 19:17-18 Luke 10:25-37
Saturday, 7/5	Weekly Catchup	James 2:1-13
Sunday, 7/6	Weekly Review + Preview	James 2:1-26

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 5	Seat of Honor	James 2:1-13 Luke 14:7-13





# WEEK SIX



<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? <sup>17</sup> So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

<sup>18</sup> But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. <sup>19</sup> You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! <sup>20</sup> Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? <sup>21</sup> Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; <sup>23</sup> and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God. <sup>24</sup> You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. <sup>25</sup> And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? <sup>26</sup> For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

## JAMES 2:14-26





# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 7/7	Responding to Needs of People	James 2:14-26 Matthew 25:31-46 1 John 3:16-18 Proverbs 11:24-25
Tuesday, 7/8	Faith without Deeds is Useless	James 2:14-26 Romans 3:27-28 Galatians 2:15-21 Romans 1:1-8
Wednesday, 7/9	Abraham	James 2:14-26 Hebrews 11:17-19 Genesis 15:1-6 Genesis 22:1-19
Thursday, 7/10	Rahab	James 2:14-26 Hebrews 11:31 Joshua 2 Joshua 6:17, 22-23
Friday, 7/11	A Life of Obedience to God	James 2:14-26 Galatians 5:16-26 John 15:5-8 1 Samuel 15:22-23
Saturday, 7/12	Weekly Catchup	James 2:14-26
Sunday, 7/13	Weekly Review + Preview	James 2:14-3:12

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 6	Abraham Sacrifices Isaac	James 2:14-26 Genesis 22:1-19





# SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

So also faith by itself,  
if it does not have  
works, is dead.

James 2:17





# WEEK SEVEN



<sup>1</sup> Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup> For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. <sup>3</sup> If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. <sup>4</sup> Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup> So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup> For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup> but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

## JAMES 3:1-12





# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 7/14	Role and Responsibility of Teaching	James 3:1-12 Matthew 23:1-7, 27-28 Luke 12:41-48 Romans 12:4-8 Ephesians 4:11-16
Tuesday, 7/15	Power of the Tongue: Pt. 1	James 3:1-12 Matthew 15:10-20 Proverbs 11:9, 12 Proverbs 18:6-8, 13, 21 Psalm 39:1
Wednesday, 7/16	Power of the Tongue: Pt. 2	James 3:1-12 Proverbs 15 Proverbs 16:24, 27 Proverbs 12:18, 22-23, 25
Thursday, 7/17	Power of the Tongue: Pt. 3	James 3:1-12 Psalm 140:3 Matthew 5:21-26 Romans 3:13-14
Friday, 7/18	Consistent from the Source	James 3:1-12 Matthew 7:15-20 Psalm 1:3-4 Matthew 12:33-37
Saturday, 7/19	Weekly Catchup	James 3:1-12
Sunday, 7/20	Weekly Review + Preview	James 3:1-18

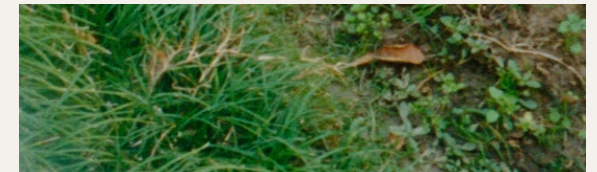
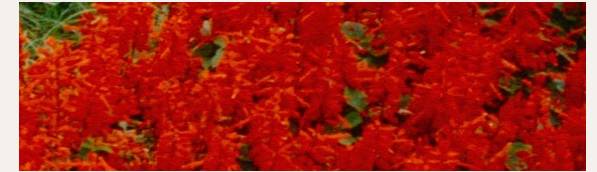
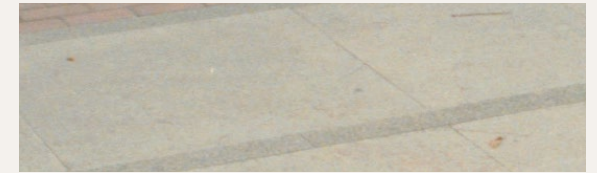
# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 7	What Comes From the Mouth	James 3:1-12 Matthew 15:10-20





# WEEK EIGHT



<sup>13</sup> Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup> This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

## JAMES 3:13-18



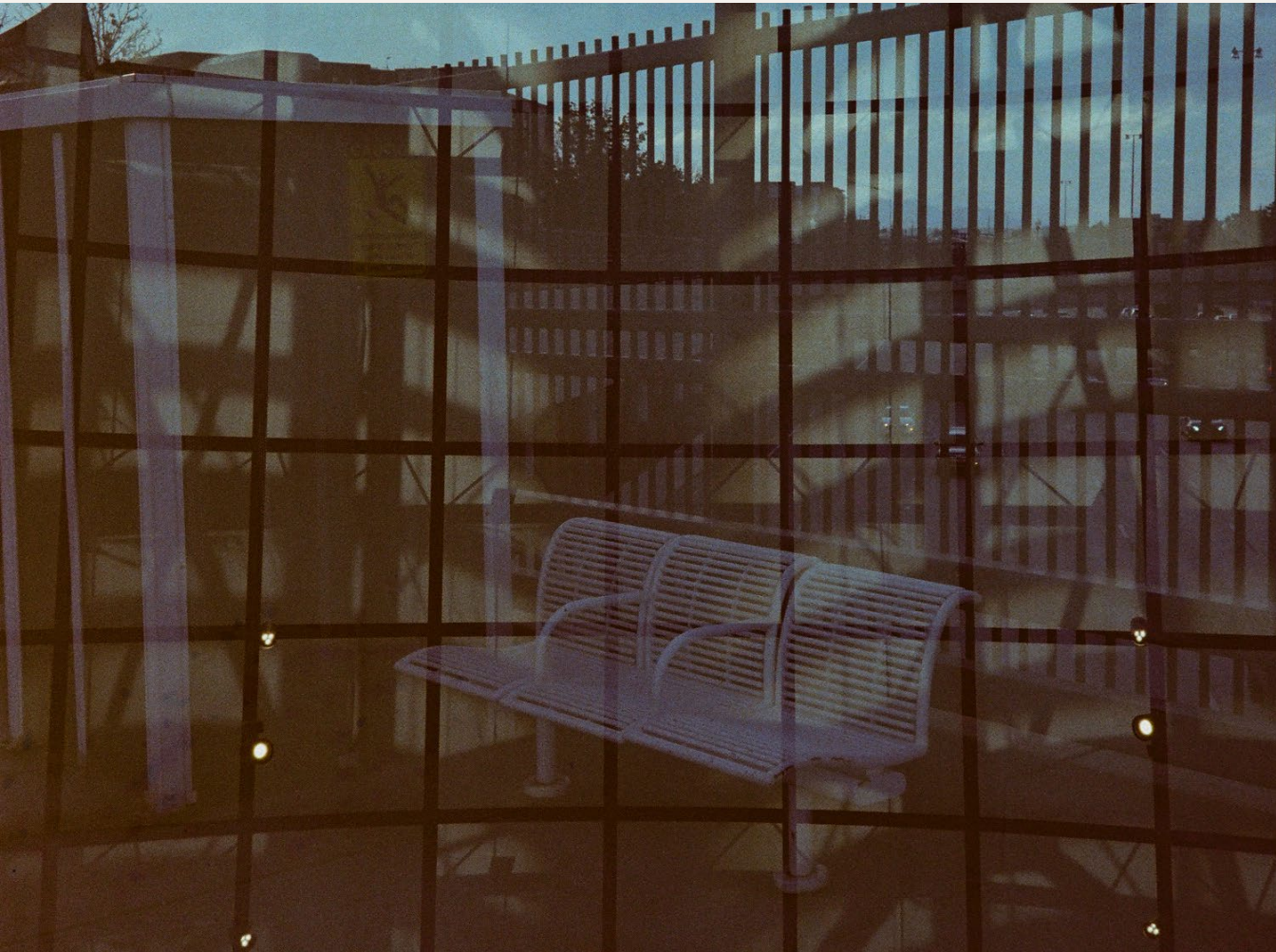


# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 7/21	Wise + Understanding Humility	James 3:13-18 2 Chronicles 1:7-13 Job 28:28 1 Peter 2:12 Proverbs 9:10
Tuesday, 7/22	Danger of Earthly	James 3:13-18 1 Peter 3:8-9 Matthew 11:25-30 Philippians 2:3-11
Wednesday, 7/23	Wisdom	James 3:13-18 Acts 5:17-26 Jeremiah 9:23-24 2 Corinthians 12:20-21 Philippians 1:15-18
Thursday, 7/24	Fruit of the Wise	James 3:13-18 2 Timothy 2:22-26 Matthew 5:8, 38-42 Philippians 4:5-8 Luke 6:27-36
Friday, 7/25	Peace in the Harvest of Righteousness	James 3:13-18 Matthew 5:9 Hebrews 12:11 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Saturday, 7/26	Weekly Catchup	James 3:13-18
Sunday, 7/27	Weekly Review + Preview	James 3:13-4:10

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 8	Daniel and the Lion's Den	James 3:13-18 Daniel 6





# SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

BUT THE WISDOM FROM ABOVE IS FIRST  
PURE, THEN PEACEABLE, GENTLE, OPEN  
TO REASON, FULL OF MERCY AND GOOD  
FRUITS, IMPARTIAL AND SINCERE.

JAMES 3:17



WEEK  
NINE



<sup>1</sup> What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup> You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. <sup>4</sup> You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup> Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that He has made to dwell in us"? <sup>6</sup> But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup> Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

JAMES 4:1-10





# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 7/28	Envy + Covetousness	James 4:1-10 Romans 1:28-32 1 Timothy 6:3-7 Exodus 20:17
Tuesday, 7/29	Asking and Receiving	James 4:1-10 John 16:23-24 1 John 5:14-15 Luke 18:1-8 Matthew 7:7-11
Wednesday, 7/30	God Opposes the Proud, Gives Grace to Humble	James 4:1-10 1 Peter 5:5-7 Proverbs 3:34 Zephaniah 3:11-12
Thursday, 7/31	Submitting to God + Resisting the Devil	James 4:1-10 1 Peter 5:8-10 Matthew 4:1-11 1 Corinthians 7:12-13 1 John 2:15-17
Friday, 8/1	Repentance + Cleansing	James 4:1-10 Psalm 24:3-4 1 John 1:5-10 Joel 2:12-13 1 Corinthians 7:9-10
Saturday, 8/2	Weekly Catchup	James 4:1-10
Sunday, 8/3	Weekly Review + Preview	James 4:1-17

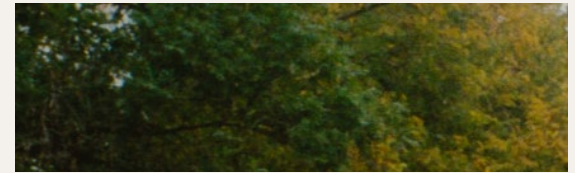
# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 9	Story of Zacchaeus	James 4:1-10 Luke 19:1-10





# WEEK TEN



<sup>11</sup> Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. <sup>12</sup> There is only one lawgiver and judge, He who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

<sup>13</sup> Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— <sup>14</sup> yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup> Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." <sup>16</sup> As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup> So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

## JAMES 4:11-17



# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 8/4	The Danger of Slander	James 4:11-17 Leviticus 19:16-18 Matthew 7:12 Psalm 101:5 1 Peter 2:1-2
Tuesday, 8/5	Acting as Judge	James 4:11-17 Galatians 6:1-5 Romans 2:1-5 Romans 14:1-13
Wednesday, 8/6	Submitting to God's Will	James 4:11-17 Matthew 26:36-42 Matthew 6:9-13 Acts 21:10-14 1 Peter 3:17
Thursday, 8/7	Brevity of Life	James 4:11-17 Proverbs 27:1 Psalm 39:4-6 Luke 12:16-21
Friday, 8/8	Knowing What is Right and Doing It	James 4:11-17 Luke 12:35-48 Matthew 25:31-46 Proverbs 3:27-28
Saturday, 8/9	Weekly Catchup	James 4:11-17
Sunday, 8/10	Preview	James 4:11-5:6

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 10	Story of Esther	James 4:11-17 Esther 4:12-17





# SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

SO WHOEVER KNOWS THE RIGHT THING TO  
DO AND FAILS TO DO IT, FOR HIM IT IS SIN.

JAMES 4:17



# WEEK ELEVEN



<sup>1</sup> Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. <sup>2</sup> Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. <sup>3</sup> Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. <sup>4</sup> Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. <sup>5</sup> You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup> You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

## JAMES 5:1-6



# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 8/11	Impending Judgment on the Rich	James 5:1-6 Isaiah 13:6-11 Luke 6:24-25 Matthew 16:19-30
Tuesday, 8/12	Treasure	James 5:1-6 Matthew 6:19-21 Isaiah 5:8-9 Ezekiel 7:19-22 Luke 12:33-34
Wednesday, 8/13	Indulgent Living	James 5:1-6 Luke 16:19-31 Ezekiel 16:48-50 Proverbs 23:20-21
Thursday, 8/14	Don't Take Advantage of People	James 5:1-6 Leviticus 19:13 Malachi 3:5 Deuteronomy 24:14-15
Friday, 8/15	The Resistance of the Righteous One	James 5:1-6 1 Kings 21:1-24 Romans 12:19-21 Matthew 5:38-48
Saturday, 8/16	Weekly Catchup	James 5:1-6
Sunday, 8/17	Weekly Review + Preview	James 5:1-12

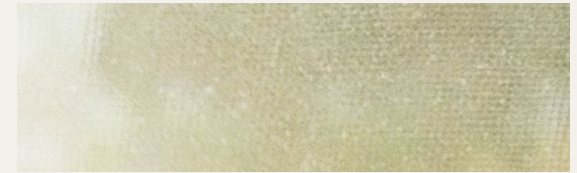
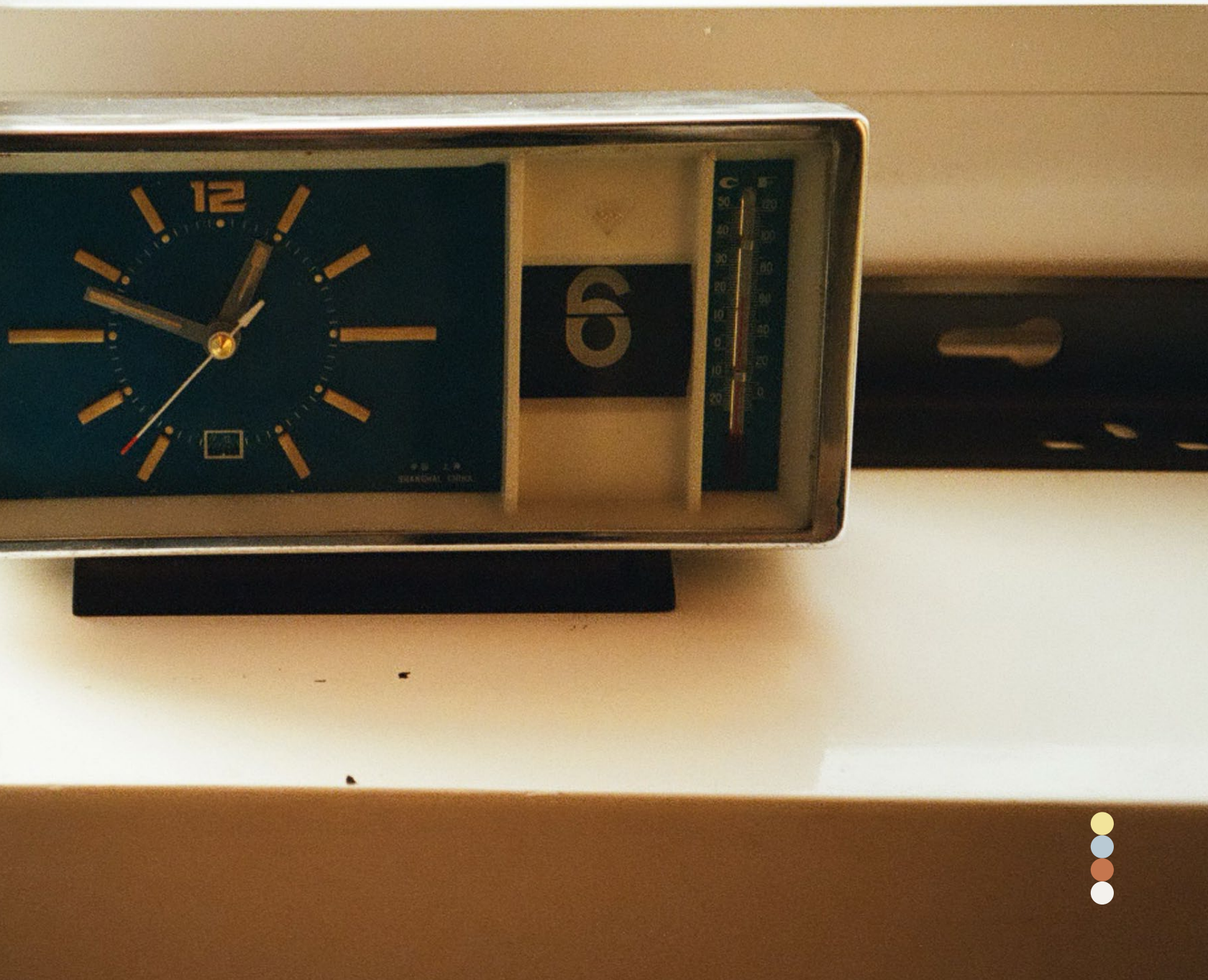
# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 11	Treasures in Heaven	James 5:1-6 Matthew 6:19-24





# WEEK TWELVE



<sup>7</sup> Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. <sup>12</sup> But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

## JAMES 5:7-12





# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 8/18	Be Patient in Suffering	James 5:7-12 Psalm 37 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
Tuesday, 8/19	Strengthen Your Hearts	James 5:7-12 Psalm 55:22 1 Peter 5:6-7 Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 27
Wednesday, 8/20	Do Not Complain	James 5:7-12 Philippians 2:14-16 1 Corinthians 10:9-11 Isaiah 53:7-9
Thursday, 8/21	Remember the Suffering of the Prophets + Job	James 5:7-12 Hebrews 11:32-40 Job 2:7-10 Daniel 6:1-23
Friday, 8/22	Oath-making	James 5:7-12 Matthew 5:34-37 Numbers 30:2 Deuteronomy 23:21-23
Saturday, 8/23	Weekly Catchup	James 5:7-12
Sunday, 8/24	Weekly Review + Preview	James 5:7-18

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 12	Story of Job	James 5:7-12 Job 1





# SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

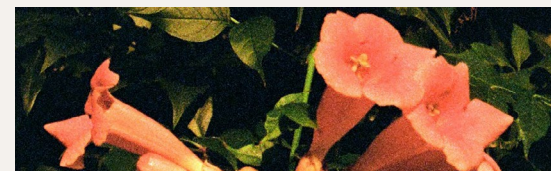
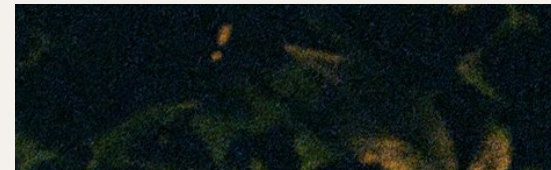
<sup>8</sup> You also, be patient. Establish  
your hearts, for the coming  
of the Lord is at hand.

<sup>9</sup> Do not grumble against one  
another, brothers, so that  
you may not be judged;  
behold, the judge is  
standing at the door.

James 5:8-9



# WEEK THIRTEEN



<sup>13</sup> Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. <sup>14</sup> Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

## JAMES 5:13-18



# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 8/25	Constant in Prayer	James 5:13-18 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Ephesians 6:18 Philippians 4:4-7
Tuesday, 8/26	Healing + Praying for the Sick	James 5:13-18 John 5:1-16 2 Corinthians 12:8-10 John 9:1-39
Wednesday, 8/27	Confession	James 5:13-18 Matthew 18:15-17 Acts 19:11-18 1 John 1:5-10
Thursday, 8/28	Intercessory Prayer	James 5:13-18 1 Timothy 2:1-6 Acts 12:1-17 Romans 8:26-27
Friday, 8/29	Elijah	James 5:13-18 1 Kings 17:1-5, 18:41-45 Mark 9:2-13 Malachi 4:5-6
Saturday, 8/30	Weekly Catchup	James 5:13-18
Sunday, 8/31	Weekly Review + Preview	James 5:13-20

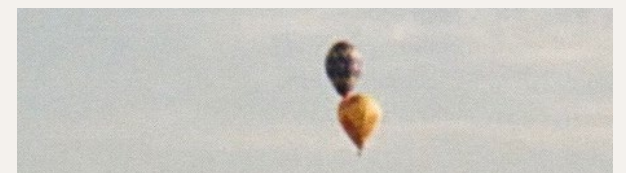
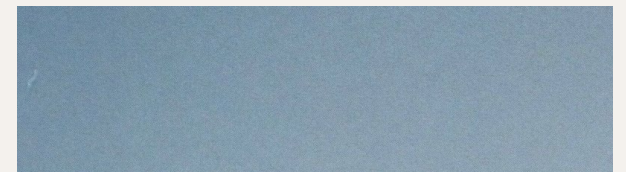
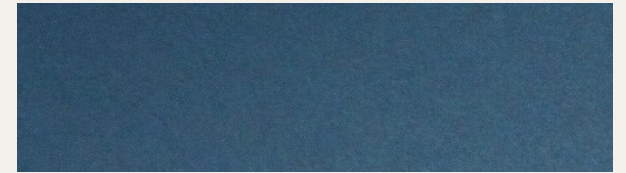
# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 13	Story of Elijah	James 5:13-20 1 Kings 17:1-5, 18:41-45





# WEEK FOURTEEN



<sup>19</sup> My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, <sup>20</sup> let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

## JAMES 5:19-20





# WEEKLY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Monday, 9/1	James 1	James 1
Tuesday, 9/2	James 2	James 2
Wednesday, 9/3	James 3	James 3
Thursday, 9/4	James 4	James 4
Friday, 9/5	James 5	James 5

# FAMILY READING PLAN

DATE	TOPIC	SCRIPTURE
Week 14	Conversion of Paul	James 5:19-20 Acts 9:1-19





# SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

THEREFORE, CONFESS YOUR SINS TO  
ONE ANOTHER AND PRAY FOR ONE  
ANOTHER, THAT YOU MAY BE HEALED.  
THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS PERSON  
HAS GREAT POWER AS IT IS WORKING.

JAMES 5:16







# HOSPITALITY FRAMEWORK

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The Christian life is marked by radical hospitality. Hospitality is more than making food and arranging a table – hospitality models the Way of Jesus by creating spaces of welcome and belonging where people can experience hope and encounter love.

Below is a framework to begin to tangibly practice hospitality in your home.

**Implement:** Establish a rhythm of consistent meals. Determine when and how frequently you will gather around the table.

**Invite:** Ask yourself the following questions about the people you will invite: Who is the Lord calling me to extend an invitation to? Who is different from me, and whom can I invite? How can I embody the radical invitation of Jesus to people who are outcasts and disenfranchised? Extend invitations to people, asking them to engage with you around the table.

**Initiate:** The table is a space where all voices should be heard and valued. Think through what questions you are going to ask around the table. Then, actively listen to people's responses and engage with their responses to questions.

**Invest:** What are the needs of the people around your table? What resources do people need? How can you pursue deep, intentional relationships with these people?

# TABLE LITURGY

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We encourage you to practice hospitality in your home or space regularly. The following liturgy is a short outline of some simple, practical ways you can engage with hospitality. First, we want to provide you with a brief framework of Christian hospitality, and then we will give a short outline of how to practice hospitality.



# LITURGY

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## PREPARATION

Take some time to consider how you will prepare your space, the food, and your heart and mind.

As you prepare, we have a short prayer for you to engage in:

Lord, as we prepare our space, will You prepare our hearts to encounter You. Allow our hospitality to represent You and Your Kingdom, not our preferences. Grow in us a heart of gratitude, thanksgiving, and care for others. As we sit to eat this meal, bind us together in fellowship. Prepare us to encounter You, Lord. In Your name, we pray, amen.

## OPENING PRAYER

For food in a world where many walk in hunger; For faith in a world where many walk in fear; For friends in a world where many walk alone; We give you thanks, O Lord.

- Author Unknown

## LIGHT A CANDLE

Although not prescriptive in Scripture, lighting a candle is a symbol used throughout the ancient and current traditions of the church. The purpose of this section of the feast is to bring unity and joy into the space. It is also a physical reminder of Jesus being the light of the world who brings light, hope, and joy.

What kind of candle? Most of us have candles in our homes. The candle should be on the table. You are welcome to light more than one if desired. Utilize a candle that everyone at the table can see and will be safe to move around as you participate in the meal. After you participate in the opening prayer, share that you are going to light a candle as a sign of joy and peace as you participate in this meal together. Then, light the candle and ask the group to say the following recitation together.

**Leader:** The Light of Christ has come.

**People:** And the darkness shall not overcome it.

## SHARE THE MEAL

Weekly Questions

While you eat your meal, ask meaningful and intentional questions to your guests. Leave space and room for people to share and ask questions.

## For New Relationships or Icebreakers:

- Tell us a story that gives us a glimpse into who you are. *(Then invite the table to ask three curious or kind follow-up questions.)*
- What are three small joys or delights that have made your life sweeter lately? *(Think: a moment, a meal, a song, a habit—anything worth celebrating.)*
- Share about a moment recently when you felt like you were learning something new—about life, faith, or even yourself. *(Doesn't have to be big—just real.)*

## Going Deeper:

- Tell a story from this week where you felt like God showed up—even in a small way.
- Share a moment lately where following Jesus felt hard, unclear, or stretched your trust.
- Is there something God keeps bringing up in this season—an invitation, a challenge, or a step of faith?





## COMMUNION

The communion elements should be present on or near the table during dinner. If you are opening your home to nonbelievers, feel free to pass on this portion of the liturgy. Traditionally, the bread would've been a flat, unleavened bread (such as pita or naan), but you can use any type of bread you want. Be mindful of dietary restrictions, such as gluten free, when preparing communion for guests in your home. In addition to the bread, include either grape juice or wine. Like the bread, be cognizant of those around your table who might struggle with alcohol or have a severe aversion to drinking. The goal of communion is unity, and Paul reminds us in Romans 14 to not be a stumbling block to others but to “pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding” (19).

### Distribute The Communion Elements Around The Table

As you prepare to participate in communion, invite everyone present who is a follower of Jesus to take a moment of silence to acknowledge Jesus as Lord of their lives. During this moment of silence, instruct them to confess any unconfessed sin to the Lord to prepare themselves for communion.

### Facilitate The Taking Of Communion Together

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 “<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.”

*Will you take the bread now.*

“<sup>25</sup> In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.’”

*Will you take the cup now.*

“<sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.”









