



## *“Drawing From the Well”*

*“Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.” Isaiah 12:3*

*Womens Ministry of Calvary Chapel Bible Fellowship*

### **JAMES 1:12-15**

Lesson 4

***“Establish my steps and direct them by Your Word;  
Let no sin rule over me.”***

**Psalm 119:133 RCV**

#### **DAY ONE: James 1:1-15**

1. What has been the most outstanding aspect of the study of James thus far?
2. (Get your highlighter ready!) Prayerfully read **James 1:12-15**. Remember to read with a purpose! Ask yourself the questions, *who, what, where, when, why* and *how* if applicable.
3. What changes are you experiencing in the handling of your trials in response to the teaching or study of this passage? Or, how have you been able to apply the study of James to your life thus far?
4. Title **James 1:12-15**.
5. **James 1:12-15** will introduce us to *temptations* of a different kind. These will not be the trials from the *outside* that *test our faith* but those that come from *within* that *tempt us to sin*. Consider **Psalm 119:133** in relationship to the lesson. Write this verse out in your own words.
6. Use your study tools to look up the following words and record your findings here:
  - a. ***Blessed*** (#3107)
  - b. ***Endure*** (#5278)
  - c. ***Temptation*** (#3986)
  - d. ***Tried*** (#1384)
7. Some Bible scholars believe **James 1:12** concludes the exhortation on temptations which began in **James 1:2**. Others believe it begins a new paragraph. Either way, this beatitude contains a powerful incentive for perseverance and a glorious promise for those who love Him. This scripture should be engraved on our hearts and written on our soul. Write it phrase by phrase here and commit it to memory.

8. Read **Genesis chapter 39**. Note the temptation that was put before Joseph and his reaction to the temptation. This is a great example of a godly response to temptation.
  - a. Did Joseph's righteous response give him an immediate reward?
  - b. Re-count the story in your own words.
  - c. Note what eventually happened. The right response to temptation will not always make things easy in our life. But rest assured, it will work out for good in God's time (**Romans 8:28**).

*“If I'm to be whom You desire  
All throughout my life  
A vessel unto honor, Lord, to Thee  
And before Your throne to hear You say  
That I have done my part  
Lord, I need an undivided heart.”  
Dan Marks*

**DAY TWO: James 1:12**

1. Read **James 1:12-15**. Happiness is transient; blessedness is eternal. Blessedness has a divine element it. If asked, how would you explain the difference?
2. Who do the following Scriptures point to as *blessed*? Read all of them and write out two or three that especially bless you.
  - d. **James 1:12**
  - e. **Psalm 1:1**
  - f. **Psalm 32:1-2**
  - g. **Psalm 33:12**
  - h. **Psalm 34:8**
  - i. **Psalm 41:1**
  - j. **Psalm 106:3**
  - k. **Psalm 112:1**
  - l. And many, many more! If you have time find more verses on whom the Word says is *blessed*.

3. In view of temptations and trials, are we *forced* to endure? Why or why not?
4. The key to this endurance or perseverance is found in the last phrase of **James 1:12c**. Complete the following sentence:

*“To those that \_\_\_\_\_ Him.”*

  - a. How does this motivate you to endure temptation (trial)?
5. What do you learn about enduring from the following verses:
  - a. **2 Timothy 2:3**
  - b. **Hebrews 11:24-27b**
  - c. **Hebrews 12:1-2**
  - d. **James 5:10-11a**
  - e. Consider the word *endure* in the context of **1 Corinthians 13:4-7**. Comment on this.
6. Share additional blessings that result *now* from enduring temptations or trials.

**DAY THREE: James 1:12**

1. What is promised in this verse to anyone who loves Him and is faithful?
2. This is symbolically used here for eternal life with the Lord forever. In James’ time at the Grecian games, crowns (literally garlands and wreaths) were awarded to those who were the victors in any of the athletic events. A crown of laurel leaves, ivy, or perhaps parsley was put on the winner’s head. It was a *perishable* crown. Think of the *crown of life* in the light of **Revelation 2:8-10**. Print the last two phrases of this verse here. *Selah!*
3. According to **1 Corinthians 9:25**, what kind of crown do we as Christians run for?
4. There are many Scriptures that speak of crowns. Look up the following verses and record what each crown represents.
  - a. **Philippians 4:1**
  - b. **1 Thessalonians 2:19**
  - c. **2 Timothy 4:8**

- d. **James 1:12**
- e. **1 Peter 5:4**
- f. Any questions?

**Challenge:** “*No cross, no crown*” is an often quoted expression. We know salvation is a gift of God, not of works. (**Ephesians 2:8-9**). Think about this saying and explain how it does or does not line up with Scripture.

*“Each of us as God’s workman will be either approved or ashamed.  
The word approved means ‘one who has been tested and found acceptable.’  
The word was used for testing and approving metals.  
Each trial that we go through forces us to study the Word to find God’s will.  
As we rightly use the Word, we succeed in overcoming our trials, and we are approved by God.  
Martin Luther once said that prayer, study, and suffering make a pastor; and this is true.  
None of us can be approved unless we are tested.”*

*Warren Wiersbe*

**DAY FOUR: James 1:13-15**

1. James now seems to make an abrupt shift from the blessing of endurance to another source of temptation or testing. In **James 1:2** the temptations came from external sources. In **verses 13-15** we encounter another source of temptation; that which comes from within us. Read this paragraph carefully. Who might people be apt to blame when they are tempted? \_\_\_\_\_. How does **James 1:13** emphatically correct this? Write your answer phrase by phrase.
  - a. What is the root cause?
  - b. List the progression.
  
2. Using your study tools, look up the following words and write their definitions here:
  - a. *Tempted* (#3985)
  - b. *Drawn away* (#1828)
  - c. *Lust* (#1939)
  - d. *Enticed* (#1185)
  - e. *Conceived* (#4815)
  - f. *Birth* (#5088)

3. What is the result or the consequence of all this?
4. Examining *lust* from this perspective, what solution does **2 Corinthians 10:5b** give us as believers in Christ?
5. Why should we never blame God for our personal failures according to **Deuteronomy 32:3-4**? Write this verse here:

**Challenge:** Blaming others for our sin and failure is very popular in our culture. We don't want to take responsibility for our own moral failure. List someone you can think of from the Bible that blamed another for his or her own shortcomings.

6. How does Job set an example for us from **Job 1:20-22**? Read the entire first chapter if you are not familiar with what this man went through.
7. When we are in trials or temptations we often feel alone. How does **1 Corinthians 10:13** help?
8. How does **Hebrews 4:15-16** give you encouragement today?

*“Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin;  
Each victory will help you, another to win.”  
By His Grace!*

**DAY FIVE: James 1:15**

1. As review, note the sequence and final consequence of yielding to lust from **James 1:15**.
  - a. How does this sequence depict a birth?
2. What kind of death is James speaking of, spiritual or physical? \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Look up the following verses and record what they say.
  - a. **Isaiah 59:1-2**
  - b. **Habakkuk 1:13**

4. Contrast the result of the two reactions to temptation in the chart below:

<b>Endurance / Faithfulness ~ Verse 12</b>	<b>Giving in to Lust ~ Verses 13-16</b>

a. Every temptation requires a decision on our part. Will we choose to walk God’s way or our own? The choice is ours but the consequences are not. Consider this in light of **Galatians 6:7-9**. Write **verse 8** here.

b. How is this a deterrent to the behavior shown in **James 1:14-15**?

5. How do the following verses encourage a believer to not be drawn away or enticed by lust?

a. **Romans 8:13**

b. **1 Corinthians 10:13**

c. **2 Peter 2:9a**

6. In what way has **James 1:13-15** spoken to you personally?

a. What is the danger of compromise?

b. Is there any area of your life that is being compromised? If so, take it to the Lord in prayer.

*“Only to be what He wants me to be  
 Every moment of every day  
 Yielded completely to Jesus alone  
 Every step of the pilgrim way  
 Just to be clay in the Potter’s hand  
 Willing to do what His Word commands.”*