

Class Dates and Themes
(insert in your Bible @ James!)

10/18 Introduction:
Learning Perfection
READ: 1:1-27

10/25 Faith Must
Produce Works
READ: 2:1-26

11/1 Perfection
Governs Speech
READ: 3:1-12

11/8 Wisdom from
Above
READ: 3:13-4:12

11/15 The Lord
Governs Human Life
READ: 4:13-5:12

11/22 Final Exhortation
to the Community
READ: 5:13-20

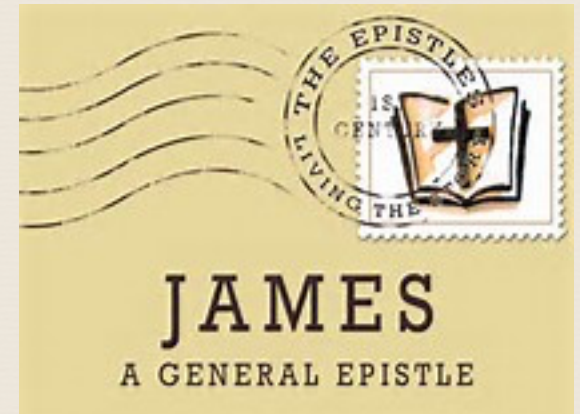
Wisdom for a new
community
of Jesus' believers.

Students familiar with the wisdom writings of the Old Testament — such as Proverbs — will discover a new orientation in this letter which is considered a New Testament wisdom text. Here are 4 distinctions:

1. James addresses morals not manners.
2. James considers an intentional community not a household
3. James is egalitarian rather than hierarchical.
4. James focuses on the community rather than the individual.

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THE LETTER OF
JAMES
WISDOM FOR TODAY



October 18 - November 22

The Wednesday Bible Study

(11 am - noon) will study

the words and world of the early

church through

the first general letter

James.

*Leader: Rev. Kay Huggins, Parish
Associate Second Presbyterian Church*

Your presence is anticipated!





These are our practices: to study together, to pray for one another and to encourage each one's faith.

Participating in a Bible Study is more than joining a group to learn scripture. Rather, our goal is to dive deeply into scripture in such a way that our faith is stretched and refreshed.

We jump into the deep end of questions, doubts, ambiguities, challenges and humility...there we encounter holy words capable of changing our lives from ordinary to extraordinary.

Consider joining!

But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.

And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

James 3:17-18



FAITH PRAYER AND GOOD WORKS

Although James has been accused of focusing more on works than on grace, his theological positions are offered to correct attitudes that failed to value the importance of basic Christian practices. Rather than a works-righteousness, James integrates work and piety.



HUMAN BEHAVIOR BASED ON GOD'S NATURE

The trials of human life are discussed by James as opportunities to trust God deeply and to develop single-hearted confidence. Enduring suffering and hardships with steadfast trust in God acknowledges, with humility, a true allegiance to God.



RELATIONS BETWEEN RICH AND POOR

James explores these relations through the categories of honor or dishonor; justice or injustice; and charity or neglect. The letter is especially clear about the false sense of security and the tendency toward conspicuous displays of wealth by the rich..

