

SUNDAY COUNT IT ALL JOY

Read James 1:1-18

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- Why should we "count it all joy when we face trails of various kinds (v. 2)"?
- Compare verses 6-8 with verse 12. How are these two thoughts related?
- Re-read verses 16-18. What good and perfect gift does James likely have in mind?
- How can you live differently this week in light of James 1:1-18?

We should neither court suffering nor complain about it. Instead, we should see it as one of the means God chooses to employ in order to make us increasingly useful to the Master. - Alistair Beg on verse 2

Kids Discussion Questions

- James says, "count it all joy" when we face hard things in this life because these things can improve our faith (make us more "steadfast"). What do you think it means to "count it all joy"?
- What do people usually do when they face hard things?
- How do we as Christians have a hope that can help us to endure through hard things? (hint: v. 12)

Sing

Take My Life and Let it Be Frances R. Havergal

Pray

That the Lord would help your family to remain steadfast this week.

TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE - FRANCES R. HAVERGAL

1

Take my life, and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee; Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

3

Take my voice, and let me sing Always, only, for my King; Take my lips, and let them be Filled with messages from Thee, Filled with messages from Thee.

4

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose,
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

6

Take my love; my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure-store. Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee, Ever, only, all for Thee.

MONDAY DOERS OF THE WORD

Read James 1:19-27

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- What benefit is there to being "quick to hear, slow to speak" (v. 19)?
- James tells us to "receive with meekness the implanted Word."
 Meekness is also a trait that Jesus celebrates (Matthew 5:5). What
 does meekness look like and why does the New Testament
 repeatedly prescribe it?
- What is James illustrating with his mention of the mirror in verse 23?
- What is one way you can be a doer of James 1:19-27 today?

I fear we have many such in all congregations; admiring hearers, affectionate hearers, attached hearers, but all the while unblest hearers, because they are not doers of the word. - C.H. Spurgeon

Kids Discussion Questions

- Why is it wise to be "quick to hear and slow to speak (v. 19)"
- How can we be "doers of the word and not hearers only?" (v.22)
- Why would God inspire James to make a special mention of orphans and widows in verse 27?
- What is one way you can help orphans or widows this week?

Sing

To God Be the Glory
Fanny Crosby

Pray

For the widows and widowers of Calvary.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY - FANNY CROSBY

1 To God be the glory, great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life gate that we may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he has done!

2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood! To ev'ry believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.

3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

TUESDAY WARNING AGAINST PARTIALITY

Read James 2:1-13

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- James shows that the sin of partiality reveals something sinister about our thoughts. What is it?
- What is James communicating in verse 5 about the sin of partiality?
- How is partiality an offense against the "royal law" (v.8)?
- What is one way you can apply James 2:1-13 today?

Christ's being the Lord of glory should teach us not to respect Christians for any thing so much as their relation and conformity to Christ. You who profess to believe the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, which the poorest Christian shall partake of equally with the rich, and to which all worldly glory is but vanity, you should not make men's outward and worldly advantages the measure of your respect. - Matthew Henry on verse 1

Kids Discussion Questions

- James warns us not to show favoritism (partiality) to people because of their money. Why is this so important in the church?
- What says more about someone, the things they have or the things they do?
- Looking at verse 5, what do you think it means to be "rich in faith"?
- How can you be a doer of James 2:1-13 this week?

Sing

The Solid Rock
Edward Mote

Pray

Pick a family from Calvary to pray for.

THE SOLID ROCK - EDWARD MOTE

1

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus Christ, my righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Chorus:

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

2

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace; In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil.

3

His oath, His covenant, His blood, Support me in the whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

4

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found; In Him, my righteousness, alone, Faultless to stand before the throne.

WEDNESDAY FAITH THAT IS PROVED BY WORKS

Read James 2:14-26

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- How do verses 15-16 illustrate James' main point?
- Verse 18 is critical to grasping the thrust of James' argument. How, according to James, is genuine faith proven?
- How does verse 23 fit with James' argument?
- According to this passage, what does dead faith look like?

We are saved by faith alone but the faith that saves is never alone.

- Martin Luther

Kids Discussion Questions

- This passage is all about how our faith is shown by the way we live. What are some ways we show our faith in Jesus?
- James says that faith apart from good works is dead. What do you think he means?
- What is one way you can live out your faith this week?

Sing

Behold Our God
Sovereign Grace Worship

Pray

For the healthcare workers in our community.

BEHOLD OUR GOD -SOVEREIGN GRACE WORSHIP

1. Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand? Kings and nations tremble at His voice All creation rises to rejoice

Chorus:

Behold our God seated on His throne Come, let us adore Him Behold our King! Nothing can compare Come, let us adore Him!

- 2. Who has given counsel to the Lord?Who can question any of His words?Who can teach the One Who knows all things?Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?
 - 3. Who has felt the nails upon His hands Bearing all the guilt of sinful man? God eternal humbled to the grave Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

THURSDAY TAMING THE TOUNGUE

Read James 3

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- What is James illustrating when he mentions the bit in the horses' mouth (v. 3)?
- Have you ever seen what James warns us of in verse 5?
- How should verse 9 inform the way we speak?
- How does James describe selfish ambition in this passage?
- How does he describe wisdom from above?

A corrupt and unholy heart eventually will be exposed by corrupt and unholy speech... If the tongue is not controlled by God, it is a sure indicator that the heart is not either. - John MacArthur

Kids Discussion Questions

- James talks alot about our tongues in this chapter. What is it that our tongues do that James is so concerned with?
- In verse 5 he says our tongues are small body parts, but just like a small fire, they can cause great destruction (like a forest fire!). What can our tongues do that can cause such problems?
- James finishes the chapter by describing the difference between selfish ambition and heavenly wisdom. How are the two different?

Sing

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Thomas Chisholm

Pray

For the Lord's help in taming your tongues to honor him this week.

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS - THOMAS CHISHOLM

1

"Great is Thy faithfulness," O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Chorus:

"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—

"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!

2

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon and stars in their courses above, Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

3

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

FRIDAY AGAINST WORLDLINESS

Read James 4

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- What war does James describe?
- What does friendship with the world cause? Why is this?
- What warning does James have for gossip within the church?
- What is one way you can apply James 4 today?

Worldliness is whatever makes sin look normal and righteousness look strange. - Kevin Deyoung

Kids Discussion Questions

- Why do you think it is that we can't be friends with the world (v. 4)?
- James says "draw near to God and he will draw near to you" (v. 8). What are some ways we can draw near to God?
- James mentions humility several times in this chapter. What does it mean to be humble and why does God want us to live with humility?
- How did Jesus show humility when he was on earth?

Sing

I Need Thee Every Hour Annie S. Hawks

Pray

For the children and youth of our church family.

I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR -ANNIE S. HAWKS

1

I need Thee every hour,
Most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine
Can peace afford.
I need Thee, oh, I need Thee;
Every hour I need Thee;
Oh, bless me now, my Savior!
I come to Thee.

2

I need Thee every hour, Stay Thou near by; Temptations lose their power When Thou art nigh.

3

I need Thee every hour, In joy or pain; Come quickly and abide, Or life is vain.

4

I need Thee every hour, Teach me Thy will; And Thy rich promises In me fulfill.

5

I need Thee every hour,
Most Holy One;
Oh, make me Thine indeed,
Thou blessed Son.

SATURDAY PATIENCE IN SUFFERING

Read James 5

Discuss

Adult and Student Discussion Questions

- What has stood out to you the most in your study of James this week?
- What warning does James give concerning unjust gain?
- After his warning about self-indulgence and unjust gain in verses 1-6,
 James exhorts his audience to live patiently in verses 7-12. How are the two related?

Although our contemporary preoccupation is with the power to heal, we err by failing to understand the miracle of God's grace in granting the power necessary for endurance and patience. - Alistair Begg

Kids Discussion Questions

- What is one thing you've learned during our study of James this week?
- James gives a warning to those who had become rich by doing something sinful. What was it that they were doing?
- Much of this chapter talks about patience. What does it look like to be patient and what promises do we as Christians have to eagerly wait for?

Sing

Doxology Thomas Ken

Pray

That the Lord would prepare the hearts of those who will hear his Word preached tomorrow.

DOXOLOGY - THOMAS KEN

1

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

2

Praise God the Father who's the source; Praise God the Son who is the course; Praise God the Spirit who's the flow; Praise God, our portion here below!