



Sermon Discussion Guide

Oct. 21 & 22, 2023

“The Simple Strength of Sincere Humility”

[James 4:5-8](#)

This year, we’re reading through the Whole Holy Bible. Weekend sermons look specifically at New Testament books, while incorporating the Old Testament as well. This month we look at letters, or epistles, actually official epistles from other apostles. Join us as we read it, learn it, and live it together.

PRAY & CONNECT

Open in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit into your conversation. Ask God for wisdom and discernment and trust him to guide you. Take time to view the message on [HopeOnline.tv](#). Did you have any “ah-ha” moments where you felt convicted, compelled, or inspired during the sermon? What’s been on your mind this week? Have you been able to apply the message to your everyday life?

GROW

Read [James 4:5-8](#) – “Submit Yourself to God”

- What do we do when faced with injustice?
- What’s so challenging about James? Read [James 1:3-4](#). Why does James say “be perfect” so much? What does James mean by “be perfect?” Read [James 1:23-27](#). What does James say about religion? What does he say about good works? How do works and faith relate?
- What is the thing that you see in the world and would like changed? How can you activate your faith to help others in that way?

Read [James 2:1-4](#) - “Favoritism Forbidden”

- In what ways do we show favoritism toward people? Why is that bad? How can we work to get rid of that in our lives and world?

Read [James 4:1-2, 6, 11-12](#) - “Drawing Close to God”

- Where do the fights in our world come from? Who have you had quarrels with? What was behind that? How do we recognize our selfish motives? What can we do about that?
- Do you ever feel underappreciated? Do you ever consider that the thing you need most? What is the truth about that? What does God offer?
- What does curiosity do to our judgment? Who have you been unfairly judging? Who has been unfairly judging you? What is God calling you to do in those relationships?

APPLY

Think about who you need to reconcile with. Find a way this week to reach out to them. How can you reach out to that person and seek to live at peace with them? Approach the relationship from a positive source of genuine curiosity and love instead of judgment. Pray that God would repair the relationship and trust that he will do so.