

**COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE****James: Authentic Christianity****APPLY // JAMES 5:19-20**

**Main Idea:** Authentic Christianity calls us to show our faith in Jesus in our works and words as we remain steadfast in the midst of trials and temptations.

1. Read James 1:1-5:20 (yep, the whole letter!).
2. What are the main themes of James? Summarize his letter in a sentence or two.
3. What has been most helpful, convicting, encouraging to you during our study of James?
4. Notice how James begins and ends his letter. What similarities do you see in the “bookends” of the letter? What seems to be his primary concern for his brothers and sisters throughout the letter?
5. Thinking specifically about 5:19-20, how are we tempted to wander from the truth? What examples can you think of from Scripture where people wander from the faith?
6. What connection does 5:19-20 have to the preceding verses on prayer? How might this connection inform our staying faithful to the truth and helping those who wander from the truth?
7. What role does gospel community have in helping us remain steadfast and persevere to the end? What role does gospel community have when we begin to wander from the truth?
8. What are helpful ways, individually and corporately, to pursue and spur each other on toward Jesus? What’s unhelpful to others when they are wandering and we try to bring them back?
9. How does the book of James help us to delight in Christ together?

**PRAY**

Spend time praying for your CG, our church, other gospel churches, the nations, etc. Specific ways to pray are listed below:

- **Praise & Adoration:** Praise our triune God for who he is and what he has done.
- **Confession:** Confessing sins to the Lord and rest assured of our forgiveness in Christ.
- **Lament:** Grieve the brokenness of the world as it’s revealed in disease, death, injustices, racism, prejudices, oppression, etc.
- **Universal Church Witness:** That the church in this nation, and around the globe, would model the mercy, grace, justice, compassion of our Lord.
- **Unity in the Gospel:** That every member of our church would put gospel unity above personal preference.
- **Maturity in Christ:** That we would help each other grow in Christ-likeness.
- **Mutual Care:** That we would care for each other both physically and spiritually.
- **Mission:** That our church would be a place where non-Christians hear the gospel and a place where we encourage each other to advance the gospel.
- **Community:** That there would be a deepening sense of gospel community among all the members of our CG and the members of our church; that we’d intentionally seek out those who may feel alone or isolated.
- **Vulnerability:** That our church would be a place where sins are confessed and the gospel is humbly and appropriately shared with each other.

- **Every Member Ministry:** That every member of our church would serve the church body both formally and informally. That our culture would be one of selfless, glad-hearted service to and discipling of one another.
- **Conversions:** That the Lord would use our church (corporately and through personal evangelism) to bring people to faith in Jesus.
- **Gathering:** That we'd prioritize gathering with our church family, not just attend when it's convenient and we happen to be in town.
  
- **Giving:** That we'd cheerfully, generously, and faithfully give of our monetary resources to our church and other charitable works.
- **Multiplication:** That the Lord would bring so many people to our CG that we would have to start another CG by the end of the year.
- **Delight:** That the Spirit would cause every person in our CG and church to find great delight in loving and pursuing Jesus.
  
- **Specific Ministries**
  - Restoration Kids
  - Restoration Youth
  - Campus Outreach
  - Iglesia Biblical Sublime Gracia
  - DC127
  - Christian Legal Aid DC
  - Central Union Mission / Mission Muffins
  - NIQ
  
- **Gospel Organizations**
  - International Mission Board
  - Treasuring Christ Together Network
  - 9Marks
  
- **Other DC Churches**
  - New Covenant Baptist in Rockville (James Choi)
  - Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church in NE DC (Jeremy Mclean)
  - Anacostia River Church
  - Grace DC
  - Capitol Hill Baptist
  - Redeemer City
  - The District Church
  - Church of the Advent
  - Redemption Hill
  - Cherrydale Baptist
  - McClean Bible Church
  - 4th Presbyterian
  - Redeemer Arlington
  - Pillar DC
  - Aletheia College Park
  - The Well in Silver Spring
  - Washington International Church
  
- **CG Leaders & Hosts**
- **Elders**
- **Deacons**

## ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

**QUESTION:** Follow up from previous weeks.