

Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why are good works important to show our faith?
- What does it mean if a person says he or she has faith but does not obey God?
- Can good works save you? Why or why not?

Doers of the Word

James 1-2

STORY POINT: JAMES SAID THAT FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS USELESS.

James wrote a letter to the Jewish believers. He told them the way believers should live. James explained that talking about God and the church is not enough. We have to do what God says. James wrote, "Be doers of the word. If you hear the word but don't do it, you fool yourselves." God's Word shows us the truth about ourselves. Anyone who hears and does the Word will be blessed.

James explained that people who really love God will show care to people too. God is honored when believers show their faith with actions. One way to do this is by helping orphans and widows.

We show love in what we say and do. James also wrote, "What good is it if someone says he has faith but does not do what is good and right? If someone is cold and hungry and you say to him, 'Go in peace, stay warm, and be well fed,' but you don't give him clothes or food, what good is it?" James said that in the same way, faith without works is useless.

Anyone can say that he has faith, but true faith is proven by good works. Abraham showed his faith when he obeyed God and got ready to sacrifice his son Isaac. Rahab showed her faith by risking her life to hide the spies in Jericho. God does not accept people because they do what is good and right; He accepts people who have true faith in Jesus.

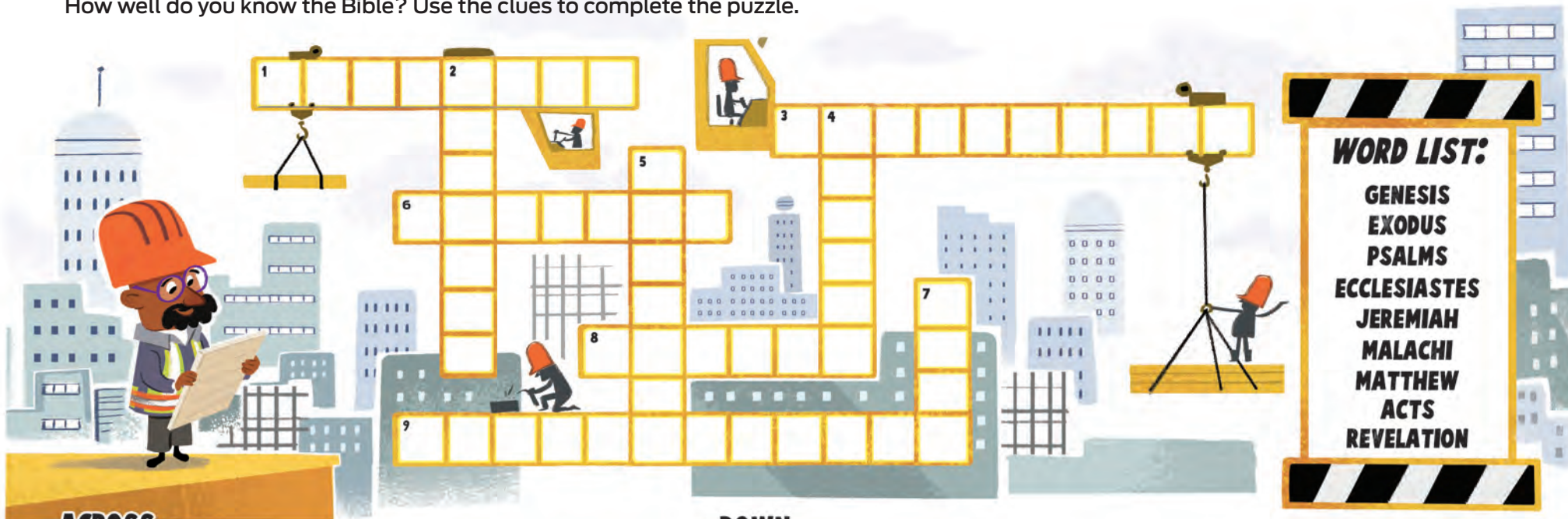
Christ Connection: Jesus said, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word" (John 14:23). James reminded believers to be doers of the word. Jesus rescues us from sin and frees us to live a life that honors God. By doing what is good and right, people who trust Jesus can show that they really believe in Him.



FOLD

God's Word Crossword

How well do you know the Bible? Use the clues to complete the puzzle.



- WORD LIST:**
- GENESIS
 - EXODUS
 - PSALMS
 - ECCLESIASTES
 - JEREMIAH
 - MALACHI
 - MATTHEW
 - ACTS
 - REVELATION

ACROSS

1. second book of the Major Prophets
3. last book of the New Testament
6. first book of the New Testament
8. longest book in the Bible
9. book written by King Solomon about purpose in life

DOWN

2. last book of the Old Testament
4. book that tells of the Israelites' escape from Egypt
5. first book of the Bible
7. book written by Luke about the Holy Spirit and early church

Picture Puzzles

Solve the puzzles to figure out the missing words.

JESUS SAID, "IF ANYONE LOVES ME, HE WILL

_____."

(JOHN 14:23)

1



- N
+ P

2



AP = Y

3



- L

Finders of the Words

INSTRUCTIONS: Use the word bank to help you find the words hidden in the grid of letters below.

Z N H J U D E F V Q G L H F C H J H
 R N F Y D W L N M T K B Q K M S G D
 T M C O A O R B J T U U P Z W N W O
 H N R C O R A X S P U T X V I D W Z
 U R S I Z D E O P T O K O H R P Y M
 G B G T D L T O F V B F T S Z T B R
 M I R R O R R C T I O O P A Z D A A
 R P X H S S Z Q L V L M N L S C D C
 O B C U P H H D K C U W E E B F Y V
 W M S H Y T U J W Z W O P K L A B V
 D E P E I L K A K N O R B R X D X W
 J K Y A O S C M A A R P H P H F W V
 P B F R J C I E T D K B L K R O L E
 P L D S P O T S Z I S O V Y I U Z X
 B V W A V D G I P R G M K O T E F Z

HEAR
DO

WORD
JESUS

FAITH
WORKS

FOOD
CLOTHING

JAMES
MIRROR

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- James wrote a letter to Jewish Christians living all over.
- James reminded them that believers should hear God’s Word and obey.
- Good works cannot save us, but they show that we are saved.
- James said faith without works is useless.

KEY PASSAGE: Romans 12:5

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- What is the church? The church is all Christians everywhere, who gather together in their communities to worship and serve God.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- What does it show to others if we say we love God but do not obey His Word?
- Why does God want us to obey Him?
- Who can help us obey God?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Play an obedience game, like “Mother May I?” or “Simon Says,” with your family. Discuss why we obey God. Explain that He loves us and knows what is best for us.



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