

THE BOOK OF JAMES:
Doing Life Well

JAMES: LIVING FOR GOD! (Part 1)
(James 1:1-2:26)

Outline of the Book of Acts (Timeline):

<https://mansfieldgac.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/timeline-of-the-book-of-acts.pdf>

I. LIVING FOR GOD IN A DIFFICULT WORLD:

LESSON #1: TRIALS ARE GOD'S WAY TO _____ YOU!

1. **James 1:2-5**
2. God has something He is accomplishing in us even with the difficult stuff of life; He is creating perseverance & character in us, to strengthen us, so He can use our faith in someone else's life.
3. What we typically do is sit around and complain about all the hard stuff in our lives. (There is a difference between complaining and asking for help.)
4. OR...I hear sometimes: I don't want to grow! (I just want God to bless my life but I don't want to do hard stuff.)
5. Notice: in verse 5 James points us back to the source. We have a great need to raise up an army of disciples who know how to get in the presence of God, draw strength and peace from God, and show others how to do the same.

LESSON #2: TEMPTATION & SIN ARE AN _____ JOB!

1. **James 1:12-15**
2. It's easy to blame someone or something else for your failures, mistakes, sins, and shortcomings.
3. "The Devil made me do it!" "The World tempted me to do it!"
4. James states that we are tempted and we sin because that's what our flesh wanted.
5. **NOTE:** desire always conceives and gives birth to something. That works for both bad desires and for good desires.

6. **Our Job = to kill (crucify) our flesh so that the Holy Spirit can feed our spirit and make room for God's desires.** (See Galatians 2:20)

LESSON #3: DON'T JUST HEAR, _____!

1. **James 1:21-27**
2. In January, an incredible phenomenon will happen: the most prepared failures in the course of the year.
3. The same thing happens when it comes to us and God's Word.
4. James hits on two areas when it comes to doing:
 - a) The tongue
 - b) Serving those who are most in need in society

LESSON #4: REAL FAITH RESULTS IN REAL _____!

1. **James 1:21-27**
2. **NOTE:** James is not arguing that you must do works in order to be saved. **BUT**, real works are a natural outflow of someone who is saved.
3. Illustration:
4. Someone who has real faith in Christ—they have been transformed by Christ—there is a natural outflow of their lives.
5. **Galatians 5:22-23: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love , joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law."**
6. Real faith in Christ impacts your being as well as your doing!

New Vision Baptist Church

October 18, 2026--AM