

# JAMES 1:1-11

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations:  
Greetings.

<sup>2</sup> Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup> because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.<sup>4</sup> Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. <sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. <sup>6</sup> But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup> Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

<sup>9</sup> Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position.<sup>10</sup> But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. <sup>11</sup> For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.

## RESPONSE

1. **Are you powered on and alive in Christ?** Are you unsure? Are you trying to figure out how lean on God in your life? Would you like to talk to someone about it? We would love to connect with you. Feel free to speak with a pastor, growth group leader, write to us on a connection card or email us through our website [MissionTrailsChurch.com](http://MissionTrailsChurch.com) and share what's on your heart.
2. **Are you following where God is leading you?** What are some ways God is asking you to follow Him? Is there something hanging up your relationship with God? Feel free to connect with a pastor, growth group leader or connect with us if we can support you or help you in your journey with Christ.



You are fueled by...?

5/26/2019

James 1:1-11

## EMPOWERED

- A **believer** and receiver of **salvation** from God (John 3:16-18, Romans 5:8-9)
- Living by the **Holy Spirit** (Romans 8:1-16, Galatians 5:13-25)
- Abiding in **Christ** (John 15:4-7)
  - Make Christ the **main** thing

## TRIALS

### THE POWER OF PERSPECTIVE

- **Heaven** as **home** (Romans 8:18, I Peter 2:9-11)
- Expecting **hardship** based on a **realistic** and **Biblical** view of the earth's brokenness (Romans 8:19-25, John 16:33, I Peter 5:8-11)
- Anticipation of what the trial will **produce** in *your* life and in the *world*. (James 1:3-4, Hebrews 12:1-3, Romans 5:1-5)
- **Perseverance** as an act of **worship**

### THE POWER OF HOPE

- **Eternity** (I Thessalonians 4:13)
- Measuring our life's **value** on what **God** gives, not devastated by what the world does not give.

## WISDOM

- You can't receive the wisdom of God if you **doubt** the God **offering** you the wisdom.
- If you want to be **empowered** by the wisdom of God, you have to place your confidence in God, His wisdom and His way. This is the heart attitude and action of exchanging of our self-confidence apart from God for **belief** and **reliance** on Him. (I Cor 1:18-25)

## ETERNAL MINDSET

### SEE YOURSELF THROUGH THE GOSPEL

- Those with **low** social status, power and resources, are elevated by Christ and recipients of an eternal inheritance that makes them spiritually **rich**.
- Those whose value is rooted in social status, power and resources in this life are brought **low** by the deceitfulness of wealth and the brevity of mortality.
- Only things having **eternal value** last.

You can listen to today's message on the [MTC App](#) or at [MissionTrailsChurch.com](http://MissionTrailsChurch.com).

## GROWTH GROUP DIGGING DEEPER QUESTIONS

To catch the weekend message, go to the [MTC App](#), or [MissionTrailsChurch.com](#).

### GETTING STARTED

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, **was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, inspired or confused you?**

### DIGGING DEEPER

2. **Why is it important to understand our need for God to be empowered before diving into the book of James?**

**What does it mean to be empowered?**

3. **TRIALS James 1:2**

**What is meant by joy in this verse?**

**How can the power of perspective and the power of hope help us allow us to "Consider it pure joy..." whenever we face trials?**

4. **TRIALS James 1:3-4**

**How can trials lead us to spiritual maturity? What experiences in your life have helped lead you to Christ and shape your character to more of a reflection of God's character?**

5. **WISDOM James 1:5-8 Why does James emphasize the necessity of belief (as opposed to doubting God) when asking for His wisdom?**

**Why do we sometimes struggle to accept and receive God's wisdom? What makes it challenging at times?**

6. **ETERNAL MINDSET (Preach the Gospel to yourself)**

**James 1:9-11 Why is seeing yourself through the Gospel so important?**

**Why is this perspective cause for celebration for the lowly and a reason for humility for those with means?**

**How should this perspective shape how we view ourselves? How should it shape our view of others?**

7. **ETERNAL MINDSET**

**How do we invest ourselves and our lives in eternity?**

### PRAY TOGETHER

**What from this study do you need to bring before the Lord?**