

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

Read James 2:14-26

What stands out to you? What do you observe?
Try subdividing the text, how would you split it up?
What themes, patterns, and repetition do you see?
What questions arise from the text?
Try stating the main point in one sentence.

Comparing James to Jesus

Read the following passages of Jesus' teaching to see how they influenced what James says. Where do you see overlap?
Mtt 7:21-27; 12:33-37; 25:31-46 | Lk 6:43-49 | Mk 3:31-35

Comparing James to Peter, Paul, John, and Hebrews

How does James' teaching compare to the other Apostles?
Gal 6:1-10 | Rm 1:5; 2:6-16 | 2Cor 5:10 | Titus 3:4-8 | 2Pt 1:3-11
Heb 5:11-6:12; 10:16-27 | 1Jn 1:5-7; 3:7-18

Reading James in light of the Old Testament

Read the following Old Testament passages, how to they help us better understand what James is teaching?
Jeremiah 7:1-8 | Micah 6:6-8 | Isaiah 58

Reflecting on Perfect Faith

What is the difference between claiming to believe and actually believing? How can you tell which is which?
Why can't you separate actions from allegiance?
How do works bring faith to perfection/maturity?
What would perfect faithfulness to Jesus look like?

Live It

James 2:14-26 is call to living out and perfecting our faith by doing acts of justice and mercy toward the poor and vulnerable. Pastor Adam named a few ways to begin practicing justice and mercy in our community. What are some additional ways you can practically live this out? What is a specific concrete step you can take this week?

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