

SHORT-TERM
SUMMER
D-GROUP
STUDY

THE BOOK OF
JAMES



SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

Hangout Week

WEEK 2

James 1

WEEK 3

James 2

WEEK 4

James 3

WEEK 5

James 4

WEEK 6

James 5

WEEK 7

Optional Hangout

GUIDANCE FOR JAMES BIBLE READING PLAN

Our main goal for you in this is that you will learn to study + understand God's Word and love doing so. This reading plan is structured to help you gradually learn to study the Bible personally and implement Bible study into your week by going through one chapter of the Bible at a time. It consists of five days of Bible reading, and the remaining two days will be devoted to Scripture memory or another spiritual discipline.

There will be different focuses on different days of the week. The first day should focus on an overview of the entire week's reading, whereas the following three days will focus on interpreting what the text means.

The fifth day will consist of a reflection and development of applications from the passage. We want you to learn how to "dig" throughout this time. We want to see you grow to where you know how to research and look into what Scripture means before looking at commentary by someone else. Commentary is extremely helpful, but we want to learn to understand how to study God's Word ourselves instead of relying on others to do the work for us all the time.

ASIDE FROM A STUDY BIBLE, HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES WE'D RECOMMEND AS YOU READ:

- **Fellowship Inductive Bible Study Method bookmark**
- **ESV James Scripture Journal**
(provided by Fellowship YA)
- **blueletterbible.org**
- **biblegateway.com**
- **gotquestions.org**
- **stepbible.org**
(This is useful when doing word studies, which is a deeper study of certain words in their original language. We'd recommend changing the setting to "ESV.")
- **A good Bible handbook**, such as the Baker Illustrated Bible Handbook
- You can also get a reliable Bible commentary on James if you'd like (ask staff for recommendations)

DEFINING THE TERMS

JUST SOME GOOD OL' STRUCTURE FOR YA!

PRAY

SIMPLY READ THE PASSAGE AND SOAK IT IN; PRAY THROUGH THE TEXT AND MEDITATE ON IT.

STUDY

DIVE DEEPER AND FOCUS ON THE CONTEXT, WORDS, LITERARY DEVICES, ETC.

REFLECT

READ THE PASSAGE WITH LESS SCRUTINY AND MORE AS A REFRESHER.

OBSERVATION

ASK "WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?" AND CONSIDER THE LITERARY AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

- **Literary Context:** Look at what comes before and after the focal passage.
- **Historical Context:** Learn about what is taking place at the particular time that the letter was written, and consider the original audience's situation as you read.

INTERPRETATION

ASK "WHAT DOES THE TEXT MEAN?" AND EXPLORE THE ACTUAL PURPOSE AND MEANING OF THE PASSAGE.

APPLICATION

ASK "NOW WHAT DO I DO?" AND LOOK FOR WAYS TO PERSONALLY APPLY BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FROM THE PASSAGE TO YOUR LIFE.

DON'T FORGET TO USE YOUR INDUCTIVE
BIBLE STUDY BOOKMARK ALONG THE WAY!

READING

WEEK 1

Hangout Week

1. **FOCUS** on getting to know one another in your Bible study.
2. **CONSIDER** sharing testimonies and setting goals together in this study.
3. **DISCUSS** context/background of James.
4. **GO OVER** the Bible reading plan, which will start before you meet again.

WEEK 2

James 1: READ BEFORE YOUR GROUP MEETS

1. **READ JAMES 1:1–27.** Focus on making observations only on this day, and start memorizing **JAMES 1:2–4.**
2. **STUDY JAMES 1:1–11.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
3. **STUDY JAMES 1:12–18.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
4. **STUDY JAMES 1:19–27.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
5. **REFLECT ON JAMES 1** again and your notes from the days prior—write down two applications from this week's reading in your journal.

WEEK 3

James 2: READ BEFORE YOUR GROUP MEETS

1. **READ JAMES 2:1–26.** Focus on making observations only on this day, and start memorizing **JAMES 2:17.**
2. **STUDY JAMES 2:1–13.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
3. **STUDY JAMES 2:14–17.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
4. **STUDY JAMES 2:18–26.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
5. **REFLECT ON JAMES 2** again and your notes from the days prior—write down two applications from this week's reading in your journal.

WEEK 4

James 3: READ BEFORE YOUR GROUP MEETS

1. **READ JAMES 3:1–18.** Focus on making observations only on this day, and start memorizing **JAMES 3:8–10.**
2. **STUDY JAMES 3:1–6.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
3. **STUDY JAMES 3:7–12.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
4. **STUDY JAMES 3:13–18.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
5. **REFLECT ON JAMES 3** again and your notes from the days prior—write down two applications from this week's reading in your journal.

PLAN

WEEK 5

James 4: READ BEFORE YOUR GROUP MEETS

1. **READ JAMES 4:1-17.** Focus on making observations only on this day, and start memorizing **JAMES 4:7-8.**
2. **STUDY JAMES 4:1-10.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
3. **STUDY JAMES 4:11-12.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
4. **STUDY JAMES 4:13-17.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
5. **REFLECT ON JAMES 4** again and your notes from the days prior—write down two applications from this week's reading in your journal.

WEEK 6

James 5: READ BEFORE YOUR GROUP MEETS

1. **READ JAMES 5:1-20.** Focus on making observations only on this day, and start memorizing **JAMES 5:16.**
2. **STUDY JAMES 5:1-6.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
3. **STUDY JAMES 5:7-12.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
4. **STUDY JAMES 5:13-20.** Focus on interpreting only on this day.
5. **REFLECT ON JAMES 5** again and your notes from the days prior—write down two applications from this week's reading in your journal.

(OPTIONAL) WEEK 7

Hangout Week

1. **PRAY** for one another.
2. **ENCOURAGE** one another.
3. **FOCUS** on wrapping up and sending out: is anyone in your group wanting to lead a D-Group this fall?
4. **HAVE FUN!** End with a meal or something special!

**THAT'S A
WRAP ON**
JAMES