



## STUDY GUIDE TWO – FROM SERMON ON SEPTEMBER 21

*Life is full of pressures, and in those moments, temptation often feels close at hand. James reminds us that while trials can lead to growth, temptation leads to destruction—but God provides a better way. In this passage, we'll see God's promise to those who endure, the true source of temptation, and the goodness of our unchanging Father. As we study, let's ask God to deepen our trust in Him and strengthen us to stand firm.*

### READ JAMES 1:12 TOGETHER

What does James promise to those who remain steadfast under trial? How does the “crown of life” motivate you to persevere?

In what ways can trials strengthen faith rather than weaken it?

### READ JAMES 1:13-15 TOGETHER

Why does James make it clear that God does not tempt anyone? Why is this important for understanding God's character?

According to James, where does temptation come from? What role do our own desires play in the process?

James describes a progression: desire → sin → death. How have you seen this pattern in real life?

### READ JAMES 1:16-18 TOGETHER

Why do you think James warns believers not to be deceived about God's nature (v. 16)? What lies do people often believe during trials?

Verse 17 says every good and perfect gift comes from above. How can this truth shape our response to temptation and hardship?

What does it mean that God “does not change like shifting shadows”? How does His unchanging nature give us security?

Verse 18 says God gave us new birth through His Word. How does this connect to resisting temptation and living faithfully?

### WRAPPING IT UP

When you face temptation, what practical steps can help you stop the progression James describes? (see *1 Corinthians 10:12-14*, *James 4:7*, *Hebrews 2:17-18 & 4:15-16*, *Matthew 6:13*, *II Timothy 2:22*, *Ephesians 6:10-13*, *Proverbs 4:14-15*, *I Peter 5:8-9*, *Psalms 119:11*, and *I John 1:9*)

Which truth in this passage do you most need to hold on to today—God's promise of reward, His goodness, or His unchanging character?

Close your time together by praying for one another.