



DAY

AND

NIGHT

DEVOTIONAL

THE BOOK OF JAMES

# Day and Night Devotional

## *The Book of James*

Welcome to the Day & Night Devotional for the book of James in the New Testament of the Bible. This letter was written by Jesus' brother, James. He wrote it to the new churches that the disciples had started across the Mediterranean at the time after Stephen was killed for being a Christian in Acts 7.

This devotional will guide you each **day** and **night** to read the given Scripture from James. Then, in a prayer to God either out loud, in your heart, or in a journal, answer the reflection questions. Use this time to turn off your phone and other distractions and enjoy God's presence. Check out what **Psalms 1:1-3 (NLT)** says,

*"Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the law of the LORD, **meditating on it day and night**. They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do."*

If you are reading this, then it's evident that you want to be like that tree planted along the riverbank—never withering, but instead prospering in all you do.

So, consider yourself challenged to spend just a few minutes in God's Word both day and night for the next 30 days. See what God will do in you and through you as you draw close to Him.





## DAY 1

Scripture: James 1:1-4

**Day:** Why do you think James refers to himself as a servant of God? In what ways could you serve others today for the glory of God?

**Night:** What trials, past or present, have been a part of your story? How did you endure through them? How has God worked all things together for good for you?

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 2

Scripture: James 1:5-8

**Day:** What wisdom do you need for today? Ask God for discernment in all the different areas of your life now.

**Night:** How have you doubted God's ability to help you and relied on your own natural abilities instead? Pray that God would fill you with faith as you fall asleep tonight.

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 3

Scripture: James 1:9-11

**Day:** Take a moment to think about the talents, time, and treasure you possess. Pray about one way you could leverage these today to bless someone in Jesus' name.

**Night:** How has wealth or poverty in your family caused you to focus on the world more than Jesus? What are you holding too tightly and what is God calling you to change in the realm of money?

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 4

Scripture: James 1:12-15

**Day:** Take a moment to frame up your current life situations using the goodness of God as a level. Does anything seem uneven or "unfair?" Bring your questions and doubts to God knowing that He is on your side and only wants good for you. Thank Him for that now in prayer.

**Night:** What are your biggest temptations? How has giving into sin led to "death" in your life? Since the "crown" James is referring to is heaven, how might that promise to believers give you strength as you fight against temptation?

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 5

Scripture: James 1:16-18

**Day:** Since all good things come from God, take a moment to praise Him for as many good things you can think of. How has culture shifted like a shadow and expected God to do the same?

**Night:** Thank God tonight that the “word of truth” (Jesus) “birthed” us into His family by dying the death we deserved on the cross. Praise Him specifically for the sin, past and present, that He has forgiven you of and be joyful that the shame is off of you.

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 6

Scripture: James 1:19-20

**Day:** Who do you need to do a better job of listening to today? Whenever annoyances, opinions, even injustice make you angry today, remember this verse, pray, and let the Holy Spirit guide your words if necessary.

**Night:** Pray tonight for your enemies. Ask God to change their hearts, and yours, drawing you both closer to Himself.

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 7

**Scripture: James 1:21-25**

**Day:** How can you be not only a “hearer,” but a “doer” of the Word today?

**Night:** Ask God now to give you a disgust for the “filth” and “evil” in your life and a soft heart to truths He has been speaking to you through the Bible, youth leaders, parents, and Christian friends.

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 8

**Scripture: James 1:26-27**

**Day:** Pray today for orphans and widows. Pray about ways you could visit those in need. Consider spending time at a nursing home, helping foster families or single moms in your church, or giving money toward ministries that your church supports doing this work around the world.

**Night:** To remove a “stain,” you need something very powerful. Only the blood of Jesus can remove the stain that sin has made on your soul. Thank God tonight for this jail-break life you get to live.

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 9

Scripture: James 2:1-13

**Day:** Ask the Holy Spirit to show you someone you need to befriend starting today who is different from you. Pray and ask God to help you not evaluate, rank, or favor others in comparison with yourself today.

**Night:** Maybe it hasn't been out loud, but in what ways have you subtly judged others for the brands they wear or don't wear, their looks, their popularity, what classes they are in, what lunch table they sit at. How have you elevated yourself in your own mind based on these things?

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 10

Scripture: James 2:14-26

**Day:** Pray right now that God would open your eyes to see opportunities to meet needs around you today and give you the courage and selflessness to do it. Think: a word of encouragement, sharing your snack at school, driving an underclassman home, volunteering to clean up after class or put the gear away after practice.

**Night:** How has your faith consisted of more head knowledge than living out what you believe? As you take a moment to pray, what are some ways that the Holy Spirit is prompting you to act on what you say you believe?

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 11

Scripture: James 3:1-2

**Day:** What does holiness mean? James here says that no one can be perfect, and yet our words and actions reflect our character. How is God cultivating holiness in you right now? What areas in your life is He chiseling away to shape you into His image?

**Night:** If God wants you to be a leader in your youth group, school, and activities, how do you think James' statement to the early Jewish Christians in 3:1 could apply to you?

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 12

Scripture: James 3:3-9

**Day:** How do you need to use your tongue differently today?

**Night:** How have both the words of others and your words caused destruction in your life and the lives of people you know? How have you "blessed the Lord" and "cursed people made in the image of God" with the same mouth?

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 13

### Scripture: James 3:10-12

**Day:** Make a point today to “bless” or compliment and encourage 10 people today. Instead of focusing on not cursing, focus on blessing instead!

**Night:** Without a spring of fresh water in the land where James lived in Palestine, people couldn’t survive, none the less thrive. What would it look like for you to cultivate a culture of thriving for others at school, youth group, and in your extra curriculums just by using your mouth? Pray and ask God to put a vision in your heart of what you want those spaces to look like.

#### WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 14

### Scripture: James 3:13-18

**Day:** What drama exists around you right now? Ask God now how you can be a peace maker today in the midst of any jealousy, quarreling, and selfishness going on around you.

**Night:** What does it look like to grow in character but remain humble? How do you do that? What role does the Holy Spirit play?

#### WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 15

**Scripture: James 4:1**

**Day:** Since the “desires” or “passions” mentioned here mean selfishness, talk to God right now about one thing you can do to serve your family today, one thing you can do to serve your teachers or coaches today, and one thing you can do to serve your friends today.

**Night:** Spend a few minutes tonight as you fall asleep just praying this simple prayer over and over: “God, more of you, and less of me.” (Ref. John 3:30)

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 16

**Scripture: James 4:2-3**

**Day:** Take a few moments today to make a prayer list. What are some things you really want that you can ask God for with good motives? God loves when you ask Him for what you need! Talk to Him now about those things.

**Night:** In which areas have you been jealous of others? What things have you “coveted” (wanting things others have that you don’t need)? Ask God to remind you to build up your treasures in heaven rather than on earth and help you realize that you need less than you think you do.

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 17

Scripture: James 4:4-5

**Day:** Pray today that God would help you to live what you believe! If the Scriptures have meaning like James says, then it should affect the way we live our lives. Talk to Jesus about that today.

**Night:** How might God be “good jealous” of your affection for things in this world? Why do you think loving the world makes you an enemy of God? (Hint: check out Exodus 20:3)

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 18

Scripture: James 4:6

**Day:** Ask God to make you more humble today. Humble towards God’s authority in your life. Humble towards your parents and siblings. Humble towards your teachers and friends. Ask God to break down pride in your heart.

**Night:** How does God’s grace affect you on a daily basis? How does it make you feel to know that God will never oppose you for being imperfect (because of Jesus) but instead He will always accept you because of His grace?

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 19

Scripture: James 4:7-10

**Day:** “Come close to God” in this moment. Spend the next few minutes just resting in God’s presence—remembering His love for you and that He is holding up the world, so you don’t have to. A moment in God’s presence can change your entire perspective. Worship Him now.

**Night:** What does it look like to “resist the devil?” How have you done this in your life? Knowing “the devil will flee from you” if you resist him, how does that empower you to “come close to God?” Thank God for encouraging and “lifting you up in honor” as you have been seeking Him.

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 20

Scripture: James 4:11-12

**Day:** Look for ways the Holy Spirit is leading you to love others today instead of judging them—especially people who are hard for you to get along with or don’t know God. Ask God to help you not just pretend to love others but to really love them.

**Night:** Who in your circle of relationships do you need to apologize to for speaking unkindly, rudely, or for judging? Ask God to convict your own heart instead of focusing on the faults of others.

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 21

**Scripture: James 4:13-16**

**Day:** Let your prayer today be “Lord, if you want me to, I will do this or that. Show me how you want me to spend my time, money, and affection today.” Take time to thank your loving heavenly Father for another day to live and love and serve Him.

**Night:** How has planning your future unnecessarily caused you to be anxious? Who oversees your future? Spend time writing down your concerns and giving them over to God in prayer.

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 22

**Scripture: James 4:17**

**Day:** Ask the Holy Spirit to nudge you today and actually obey when He tells you to do something. Don't be surprised when He does something amazing with your willingness to step outside of your comfort zone.

**Night:** In the last few months, when have you known that God told you to do something and ignored Him? What do you think you missed out on because you disobeyed? Did it affect God's love and acceptance of you—of course not! But how might your life look different if you went on a dangerous adventure with Jesus?

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 23

**Scripture: James 5:1-6**

**Day:** Look for a way to financially bless someone today. Instead of hoarding all your money and possessions to yourself, how can you steward your wealth for God's kingdom?

**Night:** Ask God tonight to convict you of ways you might be greedy without even knowing it. Are you always seeking the upgrade? Are you always spending on yourself without giving to the church and to others? How well do you delay getting something you want so you can save for it? Ask God to give you clarity on how He wants you to use your money, possessions, and resources.

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 24

**Scripture: James 5:7-8**

**Day:** Ask God to give you an eternal perspective today. Meditate on the fact that Jesus is going to return and make all the "sad things come untrue." Ask God for the patience to wait and the courage to not give up and hide from the world, but live boldly for the advancing of the Gospel!

**Night:** Although James is talking about being patient for Jesus to return, he references farmers waiting for the harvest to be ripe. In Matthew 9:37-38, Jesus talked about there being a big harvest of people ready to be saved but not enough workers to go and share the Good News with them. How have you made church about just your friends and neglected sharing the Gospel with people outside of God's family as you wait for Jesus to return?

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 25

**Scripture: James 5:9**

**Day:** Ask God to show you 10 people you need to speak encouragement over today. Instead of falling into the same old gossip and sarcasm and borderline hurtful jokes, ask God to make your mouth an instrument for blessing.

**Night:** In what ways have you been “grumbling” about the people in your life instead of praying for them? Take 10 minutes to intentionally pray for the people in your life—those you like and those that are hard to get along with.

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 26

**Scripture: James 5:10-11**

**Day:** Who in your life is experiencing suffering? Ask the Holy Spirit to show you ways you can offer “tenderness and mercy” to them today just as He offers each of us that same type of comfort.

**Night:** Jesus never leaves us to suffer alone. Jesus Himself suffered greatly so we could be forgiven and close to God. But there are also many other examples God gives us in the Bible of how to endure suffering. What suffering have you experienced in your life? How has the Bible encouraged you when you are going through difficult times?

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 27

Scripture: James 5:12

**Day:** As you move throughout your day today with Jesus, knowing He loves you, ask Him to purify the words that you say and the heart behind why you say them.

**Night:** Why do you think God cares if we “take the Lord’s name in vain” or “swear to God?” Even if you don’t struggle with using these words and phrases, how has the music you listen to or the Netflix shows you watch affected the way you think or the words you say?

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 28

Scripture: James 5:13-15

**Day:** Come to your loving heavenly Father today with any cares, concerns, or things you are thankful for. Ask for healing. Ask for peace. Ask for help. Thank Him for ways He has answered your prayers. God is the perfect Father who wants to give good gifts to His children.

**Night:** Reach out to your small group leader, youth pastor, parents, or other mentors tonight to pray for you. Share with them the burdens you are carrying and ask them to pray for you and encourage you in those areas.

WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?

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## DAY 29

**Scripture: James 5:16-18**

**Day:** Just like Elijah in 1 Kings 17-18, God can do powerful things through prayer. Instead of praying soft prayers today, pray a bold prayer. Ask God to do something miraculous in your midst. Ask for a revival in your school where many are saved. Ask for friends to be healed of depression. Ask for the gifts of the Spirit to move through you for God's glory. Take time to pray bold prayers now.

**Night:** Who do you need to confess your sins to tonight? Reach out to a trusted Christian friend, a parent, a small group leader, or your youth pastor and tell them what sins are weighing you down. God wants you to experience the "wonderful results" that come when you are vulnerable and speak out the sins that you are keeping secret. Remember, if you come to Jesus, He will never cast you out (John 6:37)!

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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## DAY 30

**Scripture: James 5:19-20**

**Day:** What friend in your life needs you to "bring them back from wandering" today? Using a Spirit-led gentle invitation, reach out to that person you know who needs to come back to Jesus.

**Night:** Take time to pray tonight and thank God for the mentors and friends who have called you out when you needed it and who have encouraged you when you have struggled with doubt or drifting.

**WHAT DID GOD SPEAK TO YOU?**

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# CONGRATS!

30 days and nights in God's Word!

**What was your biggest take-away from your time in the book of James? What did God speak to you?**

**What is one action step you want to take because of reading God's Word?**

**What are you going to explore in the Bible next?**

**Who could you invite to join you?**

