

Title ideas:
Living Right without Doubt!
Living Right in Prayer!

James 1:5-11 – Living Right without Doubt!

Scriptures:

Colossians 1:27-28 - To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

Proverb 9:10 -

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Isaiah 55:8-9 -

For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.

9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God,

3007 – to miss
Verse 4

4678 - the capacity to understand, and hence act wisely

who gives to all liberally and without reproach,

574 - generously

3679 - reprimand

and it will be given to him.

1325 -

Notes:

James knew that most people would not know how to count it all joy, or how to let patience have its work and they certainly wouldn't understand why they were experiencing trials.

'lacks wisdom' – While this can be applied in a general fashion, it specifically applied here to trials. It is not unusual not to know why a trial is happening or what God is trying to do. Don't try to solve it on your own – seek God directly, through His Word, or through His people.

Many of the things that come into our lives may not make sense to us. We must never forget that God doesn't think the same way we do (Isa. 55:8-9). If we want to understand better, we must seek God's wisdom, not ours or man's.

This is a conditional promise – Ask and it will be given you. There is a further condition in the next verse.

Wisdom is grown through three different factors: knowledge, perspective, and experience. In all three we are painfully inadequate compared to God.

God is right, and if we learn to walk with Him through the various trials that come into our lives, the more right our life becomes.

Scriptures:

Hebrews 6:19-20 - This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, 20 where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

⁶ But let him ask in ^{HA}faith, with no doubting, for he

1252 – uncertainty –
“to hesitate v. — to
pause or hold back in
uncertainty or
unwillingness.”

who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and

tossed by the wind.

Notes:

Faith is what we know and believe about God. Faith is what we use to trust God. Faith and doubt cancel each other out. Where faith exists, doubt is eliminated. Where doubt exists, faith is weak or nonexistent.

Faith is an anchor that keeps us from being tossed about ([Heb. 6:19-20](#)).

Three things we need to believe to pray ([Heb. 11:6](#)):

1. Must believe that we need something we cannot provide for ourselves
2. Must believe that God is able to provide what we need
3. Must believe that God is willing to answer our prayer

Believe God and ask Him for the wisdom you need to let that trial purify your faith so that you can patiently wait for Him to make you more like Jesus and eventually bring you out of the trial.

Doubt: “a feeling of uncertainty or lack of conviction.”

The antonym of doubt is trust.

Scriptures:
2 Timothy 4:2 - Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive

3633 – “to suppose
v. — to think or
believe (something)
without being fully
settled in mind or
opinion.”

2983 – take hold
of

Notes:
Doubt is the opposite of faith. God can do anything He chooses. He chooses to respond to us based on faith.

If you doubt whether God can or will, then He probably won't.

“If you are going to work out your problem for yourself, then God cannot work it out for you.” McGee – page 630

One of the roles of the preacher is to convince people of the truth of God's Word (2 Tim. 4:2).

anything from the Lord;

5100 -

Scriptures:
James 4:7-8 - Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his

1374 – “double minded adj. — characterized by a duality of selves (as in one's desires or thinking) that are in opposition to one another; especially that results in a lack of decisiveness.

182 – not
controlled

Notes:
James later says this is a problem with the heart (Jam. 4:7-8). God is seeking wholehearted devotion, worship, and obedience.

“The answer from God depends on assurance in God.” (Blue, 2004) page 821

ways.

Scriptures:

⁹Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation,

5011 –
humble of
status

80 – fellow
believer

2744 – boast,
brag about,
rejoice in glory

5311 – high
position

Notes:

How is the lowly brother exalted?

The poor have a higher position in the Kingdom of God than they do in this world.

Their lowly estate is temporary – their exaltation in heaven is eternal.

Scriptures:

Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

¹⁰but the rich in his humiliation, because as a

5014 -

flower of the field he will pass away.

Notes:

How is the rich humbled?

The rich have a lower position in the Kingdom of God than they do in this world. Everyone is brought to the same level at the cross.

Wealth also has the effect of reducing our perceived need for God.

Their riches are temporary – wealth has a tendency to produce pride – that will be erased in the presence of Christ in heaven.

Trials have a way of leveling the field.

Scriptures:

¹¹ For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning

Notes:

All wealth is temporal. It can take a lifetime to attain and a moment to lose. Cling only to those things that are eternal.

heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and

its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man

also will fade away in his pursuits.

3133 -

4197 – journey,
business pursuits,
way of life

Word study