

Bible Study for August 23-29, 2021

Read: James 1:17-27

Notes:

This week we begin to look at the book of James, believed to be written by the leader of the church in Jerusalem and a brother or cousin of Jesus. In many ways James is a how-to book, filled with ideas of how the Christian faith is to be lived out. Reading through it, we discover the author has some special concerns: the relationship between rich and poor, the use and abuse of speech, instructions on prayer, and ethical behavior.

The letter of James was intended to provide first century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

Questions to Ponder:

What best describes your temper: short fuse – big bomb? Long fuse – little fizz? Long fuse – H bomb? Explain.

For what things are you sure to check in a mirror before leaving the house?

What do you think is the point of the mirror image in verses 23-24?

How good are you at keeping a tight rein on your tongue? (verse 26) When do you feel it is ok to cut loose?

Think of one failed and one successful relationship you have had. What might change if verses 19-20 were applied to each regularly?