

Bible Study for December 5-11, 2022

Read: James 5:7-18

Notes:

The book of James, is 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.

In today's verses, James spells out the benefits of patience as well as prayer.

Questions to Ponder:

As a child, what did you pray for before going to sleep? How about at mealtimes?

Instead of looking for ways to retaliate, what are the poor to do? Why?

What lessons are provided by the example of the farmer?

When you experience hardship, how are you able to be patient and wait for God?

When have you come closest to wandering from the faith? What or who helped bring you back?

What encouragement would you give to someone who's faith is wavering?