



# SMALL GROUP STUDY

## Mature Christianity

The book of James is a practical, straightforward book on maturity. James would say to Christians, “grow up.” Spiritual growth should happen, it is the natural-supernatural result of having a life connected to God. Spiritual maturity has little or nothing to do with age. Spiritual growth is a process, it does not happen instantaneously. You can grow as much as you want. James is a tribute to the believers who are always climbing!

## Genuine Faith will produce evidence of Genuine Faith

James teaches us that mature Christians are patient in trials, they practice the truth, they have power over their tongue, they are poor in spirit, and they persevere in troubles.

### *Discussion Questions:*

- a. Who is the author of the book of James?
- b. Who was James writing to?
- c. What are two factors of maturity?
- d. What instructions did James give regarding trials and temptations?
- e. Examine your heart: Are there any trials that you are experiencing in your life? Ask the Lord, what can I get out of this trial? What can I learn from this? How can I not waste this time of trial?
- f. Where do temptations come from?
- g. What are the three types of faith that James mentions?
- h. Explain faith without works vs. faith with works. Use scriptures from James to support.
- i. What does James say we do with our tongue?
- j. What are some sins of the tongue? And, how can they destroy?
- k. Where do wars and fights come from?
- l. How do you solve a conflict? Provide scripture references.
- m. In chapter 4, what does James have to say about pride and humility?
- n. Examine your heart: Are you poor in spirit/humble?
- o. How is a farmer a good example of patience and perseverance?
- p. How do you become spiritually mature?