

# 3: James

*Accompanies the 4/25/21 Sermon*

## BIG IDEA

How you respond to a situation matters. If we are honest, we can all remember a time where we thought we were responding well until someone close reminded us that we actually were not. James reminds the church that even when life gets tough, we must live out our faith.


## GETTING STARTED

Use the following questions to break the ice and begin your group discussion together:

- What was your first job?
- Share a funny time when your child's hearing didn't result in doing.

## SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures together and then use the questions below (or any you wish to add) to discuss the text and unpack its meaning.

 Have someone in your group read **James 1:19 - 26**

### The CONTEXT of James

*Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic. Bring attention to what events are surrounding the text. In this text James is writing to the persecuted church.*

- What circumstances surrounded the church that James was writing too?
- Leading up to this section James spoke about **trials** and **temptations**. How might this affect the understanding of today's scripture?

## GETTING PRACTICAL

Discuss the following questions together as a group; be willing to share how challenges and trials have affected your life.

1. How do you tend to react to others when life gets challenging and stressful?
2. Trials and temptation are things we all face in our life. The question that we must ask our self is not if we will face them but when we face these difficult moments will they *fuel maturity* or *reveal immaturity*?
3. According to James what are some ways that immaturity might be revealed during life's challenges?
4. Are there any additional ways you have seen immaturity revealed?
5. What are some ways that maturity can be fueled during life's challenges?
6. **Read Luke 6:43-45:** What does Jesus say the source of our words are?

## SELF REFLECTION

Take a moment this week to consider what your words reveal about your heart.  
What is one thing this week you can do to live out your faith more fully?