

## Book of James

DATE: March 1, 2020

<p><b>Preparation:</b> (What I need to do and items to gather before I begin to teach.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your favorite “dessert,” such as a piece of cake, chocolate chip cookie, etc. – anything that contains dairy so that it is not supposed to be eaten during Lent.</li> <li>• Several Oreo cookies</li> <li>• Bibles to use in class</li> <li>• White board or Poster paper</li> <li>• Markers</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson Title:</b></p>	<p>The New Testament Book of James Continue your NEW Testament Wall display by hanging the “James” wall card.</p>
<p><b>Scripture Reference(s):</b></p>	<p><b>James 2:17</b> “So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.”</p>
<p><b>Emphasis or Theme:</b></p>	<p>Prove Yourself as a Doer of the World</p>
<p><b>Introducing the Story:</b> (What you might say or do before the story to help create an interest or curiosity.)</p>	<p><b>BEFORE CLASS:</b> Hang your “James” wall card on your New Testament wall display.</p> <p><b>SAY:</b> The book of James gives many small pieces of advice on living life as a good Christian. And as one of Jesus’ brothers, we can trust that James learned from the best!</p>
<p><b>LESSON:</b> Telling the Story Through the Bible: (Outline the story here. Then describe the method you will use to tell the story. Examples might include showing pictures, props, visuals, drawing as you tell, using puppets, costumed characters, dramatic storytelling or any number of other methods.)</p>	<p><b>SAY:</b> Throughout our lives, we are constantly being given advice. Some advice is good, and some advice is bad. For example, when we are babies, our parents advise us to eat foods that are good for us, and our teachers advise us to treat others the way we want to be treated. That’s GOOD advice.</p> <p><b>ASK:</b> Can you think of a time when you were given BAD advice? (allow students to share their answers.)</p> <p><b>SAY:</b> The advice given to us by James centers around how to live the best Christian life we can in order to, one day, be welcomed into heaven. Here is some GOOD advice given to us by James:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Faith and Works:</b> “So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.” (James 2:17). James teaches that faith in Jesus is proven and shown by the good works we do for others. In other words, a person’s actions show a person’s faith.</li> <li>2. <b>Treat Everyone the Same:</b> “You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.” (James 2:8-9) Whether a person is rich or poor, nicely dressed or dressed in rags, never show special treatment for one person over another.</li> <li>3. <b>Obey God:</b> “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. (James 4:7-8) James teaches us that in all areas of life, obey God. Don’t want what isn’t yours. Be sure about what you believe.</li> </ol> <p>This 3<sup>rd</sup> piece of advice is the lesson we are taught on this 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent: The Sunday of Expulsion.</p> <p><b>SUNDAY OF EXPULSION</b></p> <p><b>SAY:</b> The Sunday of Expulsion teaches us an important lesson about <b>OBEYING GOD</b> and <b>TEMPTATION</b>. Temptation is the desire to do or have something even though it is</p>

wrong. As humans, we are all tempted during our lives. Here is an example . . .

***(You are teaching this lesson as if you are observing the traditional Lent, which is not eating any "meat" or "dairy.")***

**SAY:** Today I brought with me my most favorite dessert. *(Show off your dessert.)* I love this dessert so much I could eat it every day. In fact, I'm going to take a quick bite right now . . . oh wait! I just remembered I gave up "dairy" for Lent, and this dessert contains dairy. Ugh! It's so tempting . . . I want to eat it so badly!

**ASK:** Should I just take a small bite? Even though I know I should not eat any, do you think it would be ok if I just had a little? What would the *punishment* be if I went ahead and just ate this dessert? *(pause for responses.)*

**SAY:** *(Write the word "Temptation" on the board.)* **TEMPTATION** - that's a pretty big word. Temptation is wanting to do or have something that you know you should not, just like eating this dessert is a temptation for me. But eating the dessert isn't the sin, it's not honoring my promise.

We will all be tempted in our lives by many different things and all kinds of people. *(Allow students to share a time that they were tempted.)*

When we know that the temptation will lead to a punishment, we must ask God for the strength to resist! When we turn to Jesus in times of temptation, we will always make the right choices in our lives.

**ASK:** What do you think is the best way to beat temptation? *(Pause for responses.)*  
The answer is: **PRAYER!**

**SAY:** Whenever you need the strength to resist something that you know is not good, turn to God and PRAY.

Luckily, I brought with me something tasty that does NOT contain dairy . . . Oreos! Although prayer is the best way to beat Temptation another way is to replace the temptation with something else. To celebrate my resistance of temptation I brought everyone an Oreo!

Being punished for not obeying is one of the oldest stories in the Bible. Back in the first book of the Bible, the book of Genesis, we are told of the story of Adam and Eve, which is the theme of today's Sunday of Lent, the Sunday of Expulsion.

**READ ALOUD:** Genesis 3:1-13

God gave Adam and Eve a beautiful home in the Garden of Eden. They had all that they needed, but God expected them to follow His rules. He told them that they could eat the fruit from all of the trees in the garden except for the one tree that was in the middle of the garden. God told them that if they ate its fruit, they will die." Then along came Satan in the form of a serpent. "You won't die," he told Eve. "God doesn't want you to eat the fruit from that tree because he knows that if you do, you will be as wise as He is, knowing good and evil." So Eve ate the fruit and gave some to Adam. When God asked them if they had eaten from the tree, they began to play the "blame game." Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed Satan, but God still punished them for their disobedience. God made them leave the garden.

	<p>We should always resist any temptation that we know is wrong and harmful. This was not the only time and Adam and Eve were not the only people in the Bible that Satan tempted. Satan even tempted Jesus to do things that were wrong, and when he did, Jesus answered Satan with Scripture. That is a great way to defeat Satan and temptation - read the Bible and when Satan comes around, just say, "No" to temptation.</p>
<p><b>Learning Activities:</b> (Games, crafts, artwork, songs, memory verses, or other activities that bring fuller meaning to the scripture or make application to the lives of the students.)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "The Devil Made Me Do It" Talking sheet</li> <li>2. Interactive Adam and Eve Lesson – allow the students to re-tell the story</li> <li>3. Adam and Eve Expulsion Puppets - allow the students to re-tell the story using their puppets</li> <li>4. Adam's Apple (&amp; Eve's, too!) craft</li> </ol>
<p><b>Review:</b> (Solidify learning by repeating facts, themes, or even the story itself through games, crafts, activities, or visual aides.)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Who wrote the book of James? James</li> <li>2. Who was James? One of Jesus' brothers</li> <li>3. According to James, what 2 things go together? Faith and Good Deeds/Works</li> <li>4. In which book of the Bible is the story of Adam and Eve told? (Genesis)</li> <li>5. Who tempted Eve into eating the fruit? Satan, in the form of a serpent.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Closing:</b> (Prayer, last song, . . .)</p>	<p><b>Repeat and recite together</b> <b>Recite:</b> <i>Hayr Mer</i></p>