

The Epistle of James

18

Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

Today we continue our study of James, this time reading through the fourth section, **4:13-5:20**. This section is divided into three subsections. Read each subsection, answering for yourself the questions associated with it. Jot down or type out your the answers and file them together with your morning study.

Read James 4:13-5:6

- What does James have to say to those who think they are in control of their own future? (**4:13-14**).
- What instead should we say? (**4:15**).
- What kind of boasting is evil? (**4:13-16**).
- Who is it that sins? (**4:17**).
- Why does James tell his readers to weep and wail? (**5:1-6**).

Read James 5:7-12

- Why does James tell his readers to be patient? (**5:7-8**).
- Why should his readers not grumble? (**5:9**).
- What example of patience does James give his readers? (**5:10-11**).
- What does James tell his readers "above all" not to do? (**5:12**) (note **Matthew 5:34-37**).

Read James 5:13-20

- What does James instruct us to do if in trouble or if happy? (**5:13**).
- What does James instruct us to do if anyone is sick? (**5:14**).
- What will make the sick person well? (**5:15**).
- What condition does James give for having sins forgiven and the body healed? (**5:15-16**).
- Who is given as an example of a righteous man praying? (**5:16-18**).
- What did James want his readers to remember? (**5:19-20**).

Memory Verse

Therefore confess your sins to each other
and pray for each other so that you may
be healed. The prayer of a righteous man
is powerful and effective.

James 5:16

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!