

James – Back to Basics – Oct 1

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

In less than a minute per person, describe your favorite summer 2023 memory.

In less than a minute per person, what do you look forward to about the final 3 months of the year (October, November, December)?

DIGGING DEEPER

We opened the series on the Book of James, it opens with this sentence (vs. 1):“James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings.”

1. Pastor Nik described the context of James’ opening verse, what stood out to you?
2. When James says “the twelve tribes scattered among the nations” what does James mean by that? In other words, who are the “twelve tribes” and why were they “scattered” among the nations?
3. Take a moment and read aloud Acts 8:1 and 1 Peter 1:1. Here are two examples of how the dispersion of Christians took place. While leaving your hometown under duress (persecution) would be difficult...What is the benefit of this happening to the Jewish (and Gentile) Christians in James/Peter’s day? How could this reframe our “relocating” for various reasons today?
4. James says Christians ought to “consider it pure joy” when trials show up at our front door. Briefly describe things you’d

consider “trials” either generally or personally. Please keep your answer short so others can share. How is it possible to receive trials with joy? Write about a time you navigated this? What happened and how did you respond?

5. James says trials/tests develop perseverance, maturity and a completeness in Christ. In your own words, describe what that might look like.

6. As the conversation continues, James shifts to the need for wisdom. Where do you need wisdom now?

7. If James says it’s as easy as asking God, why is it that sometimes we look everywhere else but to prayer, for our answer?

8. Why does James add, “who gives generously to all without finding fault”?

9. In verse 6 James says, we must “believe and not doubt” when we’re praying to God for wisdom. What could it look like to doubt? What could it look like to believe? What do you do?

10. Describe being “double-minded”?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. From Sunday’s content, where do you feel most challenged from the message?

2. What is something you can do practically when a test of your faith shows up, so that you pass the test and grow in maturity in Christ?

3. This week when a trial comes, take a moment to briefly write down what happened and what you did to face it. (Whether good or bad.) Be ready to share it with your group at the start of next week's time together.