



Series: True Faith for Distorted Times (12)

Title: True Gratitude

Scripture: James

Theme Verse: *34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34–35 ESV*

September: *"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." James 1:22*

October: *"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."*

James 4:7

November: *"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." James 5:16*

Key Lessons and Practical Applications from the Book of James

James 1: Perseverance Through Trials & Temptations (James 1:18-22, 27)

- Core Message: Perseverance is the pathway to spiritual maturity.
- Evidence of True Faith: Joy in various trials and perseverance through temptations by reliance on God's good and perfect gifts—His Word, Spirit, and the Body of Christ.
- Practical Application:
 - Hear, Read, Study, Memorize, Meditate, Proclaim and Do the Word of God everyday so you can rely on Scripture during trials and temptations.
 - Worship passionately in large group-worship and invest genuinely in small group-spiritual community so you have help during trials and temptations.

James 2: Faith Works in Action (James 2:8-10, 12-13)

- Core Message: True faith is visible through love, mercy, and service.
- Evidence of True Faith: Loving your neighbor and rejecting favoritism.
- Practical Application:
 - Serve with your time. (What ministry counts on you?)
 - Give with your treasures. (How are you fueling ministry and missions?)
 - Share the gospel with your talents. (Who are you praying for and sharing with?)

real
people

walking
with Christ

inviting
others

serving
together

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James 3: Surrendering the Tongue to the Power of the Holy Spirit (James 3:2, 17-18)

- Core Message: Surrendering the tongue (our words and the words said to us) is the hinge that opens the door to victorious living in every area of life.
- Evidence of True Faith: Speaking with wisdom and healing for gospel advancement and encouragement.
- Practical Application:
 - Forgive daily—yourself and others.
 - Read a proverb each day to gain and apply God's wisdom.

James 4: Submitting to God and Resisting the Devil (James 4:1-4, 6-8)

- Core Message: True faith prioritizes God's will over worldly desires.
- Evidence of True Faith: Prioritizing intimacy with God and making decisions for God's glory, not personal gain.
- Practical Application:
 - Ask in every decision: "Whose glory am I seeking? Will this lead me closer to Christ or make it harder to draw near to God?"
 - Memorize and apply key verses: 1 Thess. 5:16-18; 1 Corinthians 10:31, Matthew 6:33.
 - Focus your life on expanding God's kingdom.

James 5: Faith that Soars (James 5:7-9, 13-16, 20)

- Core Message: True faith radically transforms your life—how you give, pray, worship, and confess.
- Evidence of True Faith:
 - Cheerful, generous giving.
 - Fervent prayer. (PUSH - Pray Until Something Happens)
 - Joyful worship.
 - Honest confession with God and man.
 - Pursuing wanderers with truth, love and restoration.
- Practical Application:
 - Pray intentionally and worship wholeheartedly.
 - Confess sins to God and trusted brother or sister.
 - Actively restore those who have strayed from faith.