

June 7th, 2026

James

As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?" But Jesus turned and rebuked them. Then he and his disciples went to another village.
Luke 9:51–56 (NIV)

Jesus doesn't remove our passion – he _____ it.

Who was James?

- James was the son of _____ and the brother of _____. Mark 1:19
- Jesus called James, along with his brother, John from a life of _____. Mark 1:20
- James was part of Jesus' _____ . Mark 9:2-8; 5:21-43; 14:32-42
- Jesus nicknamed James, _____ . Mark 3:17

What Do We See About James's Character or Story?

- He had a _____ spirit. Luke 9:54
- He had ambition that required _____. Mark 10:35-36
- James _____ the mission of Jesus.

How Was James Shaped by Jesus?

- Jesus _____ his passion. Matt 5: 5; 11-12; 39; Acts 12:1-2; Luke 19:31; John 8:7
- Jesus _____ greatness. Mark 10:42-43
- Jesus _____ a different kind of passion.

What Can We Learn from James' Story?

1. Passion isn't the problem – it's who _____ it. Col 3:8
2. Spiritual maturity shows up in how we _____.
Pro 4:23 Luke 6:45
3. Greatness in God's eyes looks _____ .
Mark 10:43

TALK IT OVER

Because we believe that the sharing of our ideas and beliefs enhances our spiritual growth in ways teaching alone cannot - we encourage you to join a small group at Sunridge and discuss some of the following questions.

Think of a time you overreacted to something small (traffic, Costco, family, social media, etc.). Looking back, what made your reaction bigger than the situation?

Observing James. In Luke 9:51–56, James responds to rejection by wanting to call down fire. What do you think was driving that reaction in him? Where do you see similar tendencies in yourself?

Heart & Reactions. Jesus teaches in Luke 6:45 that our words and reactions reveal what's in our hearts. What do your recent reactions (good or bad) reveal about what's going on inside you right now?

Formation & Influence. The message emphasized that we're always being shaped by something. What are a few things currently shaping you (media, relationships, stress, habits, etc.)? Are they forming you more toward reacting... or responding like Jesus?

Putting It Into Practice. James' passion wasn't the problem—it just needed to be redirected by Jesus. What is one situation this week where you tend to react quickly—and how could you intentionally respond differently in a Jesus-shaped way?



June 7th, 2026

James

As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?" But Jesus turned and rebuked them. Then he and his disciples went to another village.
Luke 9:51–56 (NIV)

Jesus doesn't remove our passion – he reshapes it.

Who was James?

- James was the son of Zebedee and the brother of John. Mark 1:19
- Jesus called James, along with his brother, John from a life of fishing. Mark 1:20
- James was part of Jesus' inner circle. Mark 9:2-8; 5:21-43; 14:32-42
- Jesus nicknamed James, Son of Thunder. Mark 3:17

What Do We See About James's Character or Story?

- He had a reactive spirit. Luke 9:54
- He had ambition that required refining. Mark 10:35-36
- James misunderstood the mission of Jesus.

How Was James Shaped by Jesus?

- Jesus redirected his passion. Matt 5: 5; 11-12; 39; Acts 12:1-2; Luke 19:31; John 8:7
- Jesus redefined greatness. Mark 10:42-43
- Jesus modeled a different kind of passion.

What Can We Learn from James' Story?

1. Passion isn't the problem – it's who controls it. Col 3:8
2. Spiritual maturity shows up in how we react. Pro 4:23 Luke 6:45
3. Greatness in God's eyes looks very different. Mark 10:43

Because we believe that the sharing of our ideas and beliefs enhances our spiritual growth in ways teaching alone cannot - we encourage you to join a small group at Sunridge and discuss some of the following questions.

Think of a time you overreacted to something small (traffic, Costco, family, social media, etc.). Looking back, what made your reaction bigger than the situation?

Observing James. In Luke 9:51–56, James responds to rejection by wanting to call down fire. What do you think was driving that reaction in him? Where do you see similar tendencies in yourself?

Heart & Reactions. Jesus teaches in Luke 6:45 that our words and reactions reveal what's in our hearts. What do your recent reactions (good or bad) reveal about what's going on inside you right now?

Formation & Influence. The message emphasized that we're always being shaped by something. What are a few things currently shaping you (media, relationships, stress, habits, etc.)? Are they forming you more toward reacting... or responding like Jesus?

Putting It Into Practice. James' passion wasn't the problem—it just needed to be redirected by Jesus. What is one situation this week where you tend to react quickly—and how could you intentionally respond differently in a Jesus-shaped way?

