

## COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS FOR JAMES

### WARM UP

James is most likely the 2nd son of Mary and Joseph, Jesus' half-brother. What do you think it would have been like to have Jesus as an older brother?

What stood out from this week's sermon?

### EXPLORATION

1. James was a leader of the Jerusalem church which was scattered after Stephen was martyred (Acts 8:1) James' first reminder to these believers (and to us) is about suffering. Read James 1:2-5. What is God's goal for us? How does suffering fit into that goal?
2. In two places James refers to "the law that gives freedom" Read James 2:12-13 and James 1:25. What is "the law that gives freedom"? How does that affect us?
3. Read James 4:1-8. What a timely instruction for us who live in this materialistic, me-centered culture. What jumps out for you in this passage?

4. We know from John 7:5 that "...even His own brothers did not believe in Him," during at least the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Obviously something changed for James. Read James 5:13-20. How does James teach us to live? Why?

#### **APPLICATION**

James 3:2, 9-10 talks about taming our tongues. What is the most difficult area for you to surrender your words to the Lord? Pray for each other as we try to better honor God with what comes out of our mouths.