



## CONNECT GROUP GUIDE

### “Real Faith” Week 1: James 1:1

Welcome back! We hope you have enjoyed your much needed break this Summer!

#### Ice breaker questions:

1. Introduce any new people in the group. Ask them what brought them to group.
2. Have others introduce themselves as well. Ask them what CG has meant to them.

#### Overview:

For the next 8 weeks we will be diving into the book of James in a series called “Real Faith Works”. Before starting any new book it is good to understand the context of the book. Take a little time to talk about each one of these.

A great resource on the overview of the book of James is :

[https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/james/?utm\\_source=web\\_social\\_share&medium=shared\\_video](https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/james/?utm_source=web_social_share&medium=shared_video)

1. Who wrote this letter?
  - a. James (the half brother of Jesus)
2. Who was this letter written to?
  - a. The 12 tribes that were scattered throughout the nations. (Genesis 17)
  - b. It was written to all believers.
3. When was it written?
  - a. Around 15 years after the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.
4. What is the letter about?
  - a. James’ letter is full of wisdom on how to walk out our faith as a believer.

#### Questions:

1. James identifies himself as a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.. What does it mean to you to be a servant of God?
2. James calls Jesus Lord. What does it mean to you to have Jesus as Lord?
3. James’ theme of the book is “Faith without works is dead”. What is faith? (Hebrews 11:1). Is faith and belief the same? What's the difference?
4. James did not always believe in big brother (John 7:5). He grew up with Jesus but did not believe. This may be the case for many people in the bible belt. We might have grown up with Jesus, but really don’t have a relationship with Him. It wasn’t until James had an encounter with the resurrected Jesus that His life changed. Is this anyone’s story in the group? Give them an opportunity to share.



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### **Questions Continued:**

5. One of the biggest questions in the bible is when Jesus asked his disciples “who am I to you?” (Matthew 16:15). Ask this question and have each one answer.

What is your next step when it comes to putting your faith into action?

### **Important Announcements:**

Heart and Soul will start August 11th, 2024 at the 144 on E Main.

We will start at 4pm. Childcare will be provided, but you must sign up for it on the website, by clicking the “Heart and Soul” Icon link from the homepage.

Invite 3 unchurched people to church this week! Live on mission!