



# Sunday School Study Plan for January 2024

with Mr. Mackie Hill and Deacon Altheda Winford

Four Weeks (January 7, 14, 21, and 28)

Topic: The Benefits of Keeping the Faith

## Week 1: What is the Meaning of Faith?

Background Reading:

- James 1:1-11 (The Purpose of Tests)
- James 1:12-18 (The Source of Temptation)
- James 1: 19-27 (Faith Obeys the Word)

Guiding Questions:

1. How strong is your faith?
2. What is the purpose of tests?
3. Where does temptation come from?
4. What does your anger mean in God's sight?

## Week 2: What Is Evidence of Faith?

Background Reading:

- James 2:1-13 (Faith Removes Prejudice)
- James 2: 14-26 (Faith Proves Itself by Good Deeds)
- James 3: 1-12 (Faith Controls the Tongue)

Guiding Questions:

1. How does faith remove prejudice?
2. How does faith prove itself?
3. How does faith control the tongue? Give examples.

## Week 3: What Is Evidence of Faith?

Background Reading:

- James 3: 13-18 (Faith Produces Wisdom)
- James 4: 1-12 (Faith Produces Humility)
- James 4: 13-17 (Faith Produces Dependence on God)

Guiding Questions:

1. How does faith produce Wisdom?
2. How does God feel about the proud?
3. How does faith produce dependence on God?

## Week 4: Characteristics of Faith

Background Reading:

- James 5: 1-6 (Faith Is Better than Wealth)
- James 5: 7-18 (Faith Endures while Awaiting Christ's Return)
- James 5: 19-20 (Faith Confronts Wandering Believers)
- Matthew 18: 12-14 (Instructions about Faith)

Guiding Questions:

1. Which is better – faith or wealth?
2. Why does faith endure while awaiting Christ's return?
3. Why couldn't the disciples cast out that demon?

## WEEKLY HOMEWORK

1. READ TEXT FOR THE WEEK
2. USE A STUDY APPROACH TO RE-READ TEXT FOR PERSONAL AND BIBLICAL CONNECTIONS
  - A. CONSIDER 3 INSIGHTS, 2 SIGNIFICANT VERSES, AND ONE KEY WORD FOR DISCUSSION
  - B. USE BIBLICAL COMMENTARIES ON TEXT TO GIVE CONTEXT OR BACKGROUND
  - C. REVIEW VARIED TRANSLATIONS TO COMPARE MEANINGS
3. CONNECT LESSONS TO SERMONS FROM PAST DECADES AND LAST SEVERAL MONTHS

**2 Timothy 2:15**, KJV: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." **2 Timothy 2:15**, NASB: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a worker who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth."