



# Ministry at Home



Family Devotional for Wednesday, April 29th

**Note for Parents:** You are doing an awesome job!!! There's obviously a lot of things that could be fighting for your attention and the attention of your family, but it says a lot about you and your dedication to being a Godly parent that you are taking time to do this quick study with your family. This is where ministry really happens! Thank you from everyone here at Robinson Ave.

**Instructions:** Pray together to start. The main scripture for tonight comes from James 1:5-8. Read it as a family. A summary of the scripture and discussion questions have been provided below. These are there if you want to use them, but feel free to go wherever the conversation takes you. The important thing is to simply sit and talk about the Word of God for a little while. This is your class so lead it as you see fit. Close in prayer.

**Scripture:** James 1:5-8

**Summary:** Before these verses, James talks about facing trials and temptations with joy. He says that our trials give us the opportunity to persevere and for our faith in God to become more mature. In verse 5, the author says that if we are lacking the wisdom needed to face trials in our lives then we can ask God to give us wisdom so that we can make it through them. Wisdom can take different forms: understanding, a new perspective, or recognition of God's power to overcome. It goes on to say that God gives generously to the people who ask him which is great news for me and for you.

Here's the kicker: when we ask God for wisdom in dealing with our trials, "we must believe and not doubt." It goes on to say that people who pray for God's help and doubt that he will provide are "unstable in all they do." They are "tossed by the wind" like a ragdoll. They shouldn't expect that God will give them anything.

Your youth group age kids may remember that last summer's theme was "Joy." We discussed how the secret to having a joy-filled life is having a consistent relationship with and reliance on God. Through the ups and downs of life, we can be joyful because God continuously play a central role. If we trust in him, he is like an anchor that keeps us from being tossed around when things are tough. This verse says that if we lack something, all we have to do is go to the God who gives consistently and believe that he'll come through.

## Discussion Questions:

- Where did you see God today?
- Has God ever helped you through a challenging time? Explain.
- Are there any challenges you're facing now or in the near future that you can pray about?
- God has helped you before. Do you believe he can do it again?