



CONVERSATION STARTER

What is the best gift you've ever received from someone?

DEEPER

NOTE: This would be a good time to reflect on how group members are doing in their memorization of James 1 if you've accepted the challenge together.

Read James 1:16-18

1. James says every good and perfect gift is from God. What are some "ordinary" gifts from God that we tend to overlook or take credit for?
2. Similarly, are there areas of your life where you trust God's goodness in theory, but struggle to trust it emotionally and experientially?
3. Why is it comforting to believe that God does not change?
4. James emphasizes that salvation begins with God's will, not ours. Why does this idea create tension or resistance, even among Christians?
5. How does viewing salvation as something God first does to us impact our assurance of faith?
6. God brings new life through the Word of truth. Why do you think God chooses to use his Word as the primary means of giving spiritual life?
7. How should this shape the way we view our evangelistic efforts?
8. What else from the sermon lingered with you this week? What questions or thoughts did it stir up?

NOTES

GROUP PRAYER

Go around the room and have each group member pray using this ACTS model of prayer.

Adoration: God, you are a God who is _____.

Confession: Lord, I confess that I'm tempted to believe _____ about you.

Thanksgiving: Father, thank you for the gift of _____.

Supplication: God, help me to rest in the truth that you are _____.