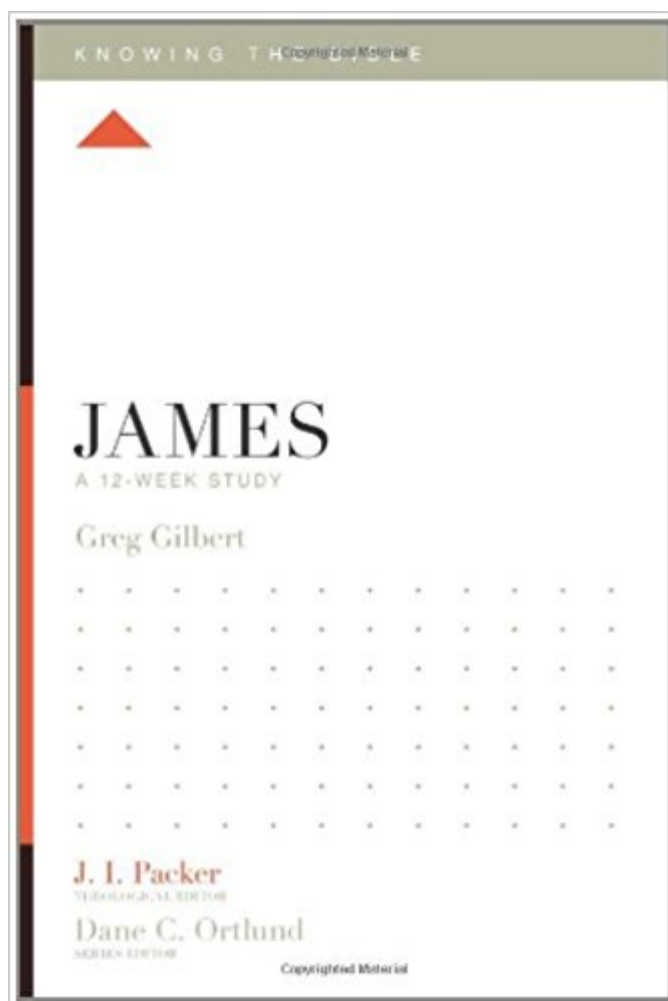


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James: A 12-Week Study (Knowing The Bible)



Synopsis

The book of James has a well-deserved reputation for providing practical advice, yet it also contains challenging teachings on wealth, anointing with oil, prayer, healing, and the relationship between faith and works. Through clear exposition of the biblical text and thoughtful application questions, this guide helps us rightly understand James as a stirring exhortation to fruitfulness—ultimately reminding us of the necessary connection between genuine faith and heartfelt obedience.

Book Information

Series: Knowing the Bible

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Customer Reviews

“This Knowing the Bible series is a tremendous resource for those wanting to study and teach the Bible with an understanding of how the gospel is woven throughout Scripture. Here are Gospel-minded pastors and scholars doing Gospel business from all the scriptures—this is a biblical and theological feast preparing God’s people to apply the entire Bible to all of life with heart and mind wholly committed to Christ’s priorities.”—Bryan Chapell, President Emeritus, Covenant Theological Seminary; Senior Pastor, Grace Presbyterian Church, Peoria, Illinois

“Mark Twain may have smiled when he wrote to a friend, ‘I didn’t have time to write you a short letter, so I wrote you a long letter.’ But the truth of Twain’s remark remains serious and universal, because well-reasoned, compact writing requires extra time and extra hard work. And this is what we have in the Crossway Bible

study series *Knowing the Bible*—as the skilled authors and notable editors provide the contours of each book of the Bible as well as the grand theological themes that bind them together as one Book. Here, in a 12-week format, are carefully wrought studies that will ignite the mind and the heart.

R. Kent Hughes, visiting professor of practical theology, Westminster Theological Seminary—“*Knowing the Bible* brings together a gifted team of Bible teachers to produce a high quality series of study guides. The coordinated focus of these materials is unique: biblical content, provocative questions, systematic theology, practical application, and the gospel story of God’s grace presented all the way through Scripture.

Philip Graham Ryken, President, Wheaton College; author, *Loving the Way Jesus Loves*—“These *Knowing the Bible* volumes introduce a significant and very welcome variation on the general run of inductive Bible studies. Such series often provide questions with little guidance, leaving students to their own devices. They thus tend to overlook the role of teaching in the church. By contrast, *Knowing the Bible* avoids the problem by providing substantial instruction with the questions. *Knowing the Bible* then goes even further by showing how any given passage connects with the gospel, the whole Bible, and Christian theology. I heartily endorse this orientation of individual books to the whole Bible and the gospel, and I applaud the demonstration that sound theology was not something invented later by Christians, but is right there in the pages of Scripture.

Graeme Goldsworthy, a former lecturer in Old Testament, biblical theology, and hermeneutics, Moore Theological College—“What a gift to earnest, Bible-loving, Bible-searching believers! The organization and structure of the Bible study format presented through the *Knowing the Bible* series is so well conceived. Students of the Word are led to understand the content of passages through perceptive, guided questions, and they are given rich insights and application all along the way in the brief but illuminating sections that conclude each study. What potential growth in depth and breadth of understanding these studies offer. One can only pray that vast numbers of believers will discover more of God and the beauty of his Word through these rich studies.

Bruce A. Ware, a T. Rupert and Lucille Coleman Professor of Christian Theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Greg Gilbert (MDiv, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary) is senior pastor at Third Avenue Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky. He is the author of *What Is the Gospel?*, *James: A 12-Week Study*, and *Who Is Jesus?*, and is the co-author (with Kevin DeYoung) of *What Is the Mission of the Church?*. J. I. Packer (DPhil, Oxford University) serves as the Board of Governors’

Professor of Theology at Regent College. He is the author of numerous books, including the classic

best-seller *Knowing God*. Packer served as general editor for the English Standard Version Bible and as theological editor for the ESV Study Bible. Lane T. Dennis is president and publisher of Crossway Books and Good News Tracts. Dr. Dennis earned his BS in business from Northern Illinois University, an MDiv from McCormick Theological Seminary, and a PhD in religion from Northwestern University. Before joining Good News Publishers in 1974, he served as a pastor in campus ministry at the University of Michigan (Sault Ste. Marie) and as the Managing Director of Verlag Grosse Freude in Switzerland. He is the author and/or editor of three books, including the Gold Medallion-award-winning book *Letters of Francis A. Schaeffer*, and he is the former Chairman of the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association. Dr. Dennis serves as the Chairman of the ESV (English Standard Version) Bible Translation Oversight Committee and as the Executive Editor of the ESV Study Bible. Lane and his wife, Ebeth, live in Wheaton, Illinois. Dane C. Ortlund (PhD, Wheaton College) is the executive vice president of Bible publishing and Bible publisher at Crossway. He serves as an editor for the *Knowing the Bible* series and the *Short Studies in Biblical Theology* series, and is the author of several books, including *Edwards on the Christian Life*. He lives with his wife, Stacey, and their five children in Wheaton, Illinois.

The study for James is well thought out and broken down. You get a 10 or so verse study each section. Very good for a facilitator running a bible study. Very good incite to the mind of Jesus's brother James. Study is more geared for medium level believers I think so fits most people who love our savior. Much more to James than I ever knew. I'm totally enjoying every good moment in this study.

The study guide is detailed and really encourages reflection of James' teachings. Each bible study of the book has excerpts entitled 'Gospel Glimpses,' 'Whole- Bible Connections,' and 'Theological Soundings.' I find these excerpts to be helpful and informative because they relate the book of James to the bigger picture of what the Bible is about.

I have read several Crossway Classic Commentaries and found each of them to be very useful. The latest one covers the book of James and is written by Thomas Manton. Like others in this series, it is a classic. Personally, I have found James to be one of the most practical, yet difficult books in the New Testament to follow. James includes a litany of pragmatic guidance to Christians, some which almost seem to contradict key Protestant theological concepts - such as salvation by grace, alone. Martin Luther and several others have struggled to determine where the practical advice that James

includes should be placed in relationship to other key Christian doctrines. Given the fact that James contains only five chapters, this commentary is actually pretty long (over 350 pages). But, it is well worth the read since Thomas Manton explains in great detail his understanding of each chapter and verse. I learned a lot from this commentary and feel that I have a much better feel for the book of James. Although this commentary was written hundreds of years ago, the content is still very relevant. Modern believers, like myself, need to know what James means when he writes about controlling our tongue (words), and putting our faith into action. If you are a Christian who would like to gain a much deeper grasp of the book of James, and the wisdom contained within it, then I highly recommend this commentary.

Would recommend this book to anyone who wants a deeper understanding of the Epistle of James.

This is a great study of James. Our women's bible study has been doing it this spring, and we're encouraged and challenged. Great discussion, especially if you do the extra questions in the margins. We really enjoy all the NavPress studies in this Lifechange series.

Our bible study group (32) went through this study in preparation for an in-depth study of Dallas Willard's book "The Divine Conspiracy". It worked perfectly. We all discovered holes in our biblical understanding as a result.

The epistle of James is a instruction book on how to live, this 12 week study was a tremendous help .

I was really looking forward to this study, but found the question/answer sections to be quite canned and overly directive. My ideal study guide is one that allows for the reader to truly dig deep into the Scriptures and have space for spiritual and personal reflection. This study guide, on the other hand, directed readers toward one particular answer and limited the ability for contemplation. The author and editors would do well in further study guides to allow for more open-ended questions that allow for contemplation without seeking canned answers.

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