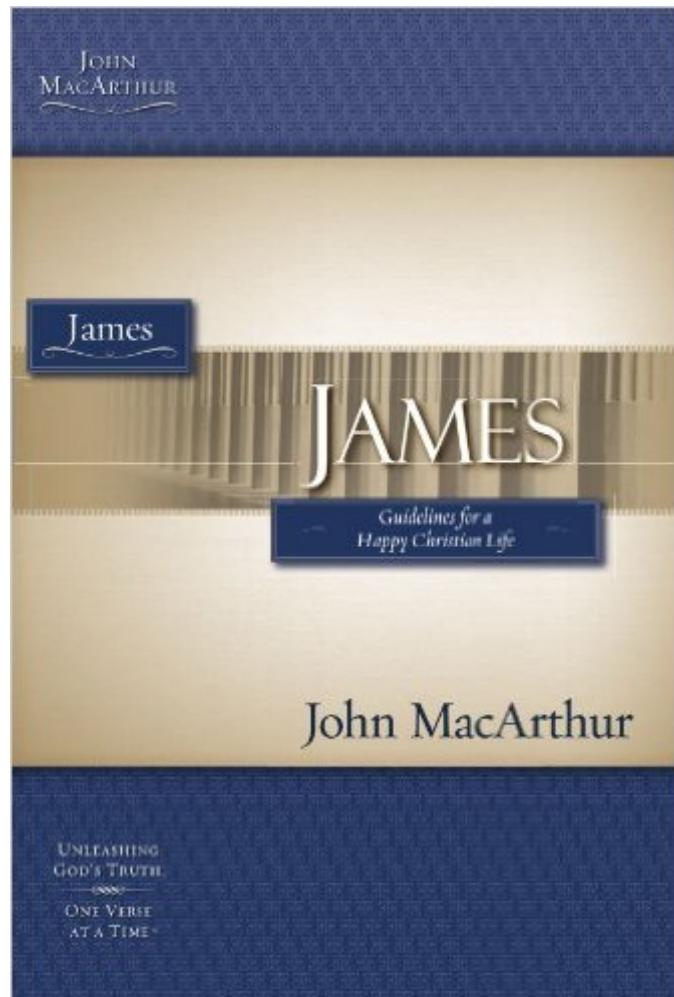


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# James (MacArthur Bible Studies)



## Synopsis

In this short and powerful book, the apostle James gives us practical guidance on issues that measure true and living faith. Through an emphasis on spiritual fruitfulness, James calls all believers-then and now-to live a life that demonstrates genuine, saving faith marked by godly behavior. A key leader in the Jerusalem church and oldest half brother of Jesus, James wrote this epistle to Jewish believers who had been scattered by persecution. Out of compassion, he confronted Christians to test the quality and consistency of their faith. The MacArthur Study Guide Series provides a twelve week, verse-by-verse examination of the books of the New Testament. This revised and updated series continues to be one of the best-selling study guides currently available for individuals or small groups. Features: Twelve week study Thought-provoking questions Verse-by-Verse commentary space provided for note-taking

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This study guide series is one of the best I have ever used. MacArthur gives an introduction to the book of James regarding the authorship, the background and setting, along with historical and theological themes. He also mentions some interpretive challenges that may arise from the Scripture. MacArthur starts each chapter with some opening questions and then provides some background information to the passage of scripture. There is room in the study guide for you to answer the questions. The scripture is then read (which is included in the study guide) along with

some of MacArthur's notes about the passage. There are then several questions to help you understand the passage better. MacArthur provides a cross-reference Scripture passage to further explore the meaning of the original passage from James. There are, of course, additional questions to ponder or discuss. Finally, MacArthur sums up the passage and lists a few more questions to help you reflect on the text and what you have learned. I highly recommend this study guide series for either your own personal study or a group discussion. Each chapter can take about an hour during a group Bible Study meeting.

I bought the Kindle version of this book to use in a small group Bible study; the rest of the group is using the printed version. I have done this previously when we used a MacArthur Bible Study, and it worked well. Based on that experience, I bought the James study book. I found out while meeting to discuss the first lesson that the Kindle version is very different from the rest of the class. That is because the Kindle version is from the 1998 print version; the book was revised and re-released in 2007. I don't know why the Kindle version of James is not the 2007 edition, especially when other books in the series have released the newer versions for Kindle. It's very disappointing to have to write a bad review because of something like this, but I can't give it good marks. It's unacceptable that the older version is being sold on Kindle when it would be as easy to provide the newer one.

Very informative, almost too much! A great study aid for individual study when a group is not available.

I have now led and participated in three Bible studies using John MacArthur's study guides. They are tremendous. Each guide gives a comprehensive introduction of the Book to be studied including the history and dating of the period, the background and setting, the people to whom the book is written and a bio on the author of the book being studied. In each chapter, MacArthur gives a brief but highly detailed introduction to the context and theme(s) of the passage to be studied. Each chapter focuses thematically on a segment of verses not necessarily on a whole chapter. Key words are explained for greater understanding and clarification. The questions that follow are substantive and make the reader look inward to their heart as well as into the Biblical passage for answers. He provides an opportunity to "go deeper" at the end of each chapter. This section takes the reader to a different Bible passage that either contrasts or shines a brighter light on the passage of study. I would highly recommend all of John MacArthur's Bible studies for personal study, men's or woman's studies or home group studies. They are an excellent way to dig deeper into God's word.

I started this study on James with a friend and it was perfect for that venue. We were able to talk about the words, look them up, answer his study and application questions, and discuss the Digging Deeper passages. Due to scheduling conflicts we couldn't finish, but I found this works just as well as a personal study. These books are rather misleadingly simple at first glance. Since he gives you all the definitions of the words in each passage, and gives you the cross references, it would be easy to just "fill in the blanks" and move on. And that would be OK if that's all you did. However, one can carefully read each definition, and even reference them with the Blue Letter Bible or Strong's definitions. One can circle those words in one's Bible or write them out in one's journal. Looking up the extra passages that Dr. MacArthur mentions is also very helpful, though the book does not provide space to write out the passages or thoughts about them. I now feel I have truly begun to study the book of James, and I can't wait to move on to my next choice in Dr. MacArthur's study series!

This is perhaps where I have failed the most. I have learned and to some extent disciplined myself to live a better life but the old nature is always lurking. Pray that God grants me the grace it takes to live a life of faith. Esequiel Contreras May 2016 San Antonio, Texas

I really like the format of John MacArthur's study series, especially the notes on the verses themselves. However, this study on James has a lot of repetitive questions. Since James is a short book it seems like they really tried to draw it out to make 12 lessons, making some of it repetitive and overall a somewhat boring study. James in itself is no way boring, but drawing it out into 12 lessons made it seem so. Would have been better to have combined James with another short book into this volume.

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