

# The Letter of St James

## *A Better Way of Living*

### Course Outline

Inspired by Stephen's course on 1 Peter, I have attempted something similar looking at James' letter. I have also made free use of many of his ideas. I thought we could keep our same study partners. If you don't have a study partner or would like to share, challenge, discuss and disagree about anything, please ring me on 01202 478139.

There will be six sessions and as with 1 Peter all you need are your Bible, a pen and paper. I will be working from the NIV, but, as ever, different translations often throw up new insights and interesting discussion points.

### Sessions:

1. Introduction to the letter.
2. A comparison with the Sermon on the Mount.
3. The content and style of the letter
4. Faith and Works. Paul and James.
5. The importance of words.
6. Overall review and impressions.

### Session One: Introduction to the letter

Read the Letter of James, bearing in mind and answering as you do so the following questions.

1. James wrote this letter. Which James? How do we know which James, there were several in the New Testament?
2. What do we know about this James?
3. Where was the letter written? Suggest a likely date and why you support that date.
4. To whom was he writing?
5. Why do you think he felt the need to write? There is probably more than one reason.
6. My suggested title or theme for this letter is '*A Better Way of Living*' can you suggest an alternative title?
7. Is there a verse that speaks particularly to you?

Write and use your own prayer based on this letter.

Mary Thomas

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