

**Memory Verse:**

**Two- and three-year-old verse: James 1:22: Do not merely listen to the Word. . . Do what it says.**  
**Four- and five-year-old verse: James 1:22: Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.**

**Aim Questions for 2's & 3's:**

1. **Do you get tempted to disobey your parents sometimes?** (*Yes. Everyone is tempted to do wrong things.*)
2. **Do you get tempted to feel afraid sometimes?** (*Yes.*)
3. **Does God want you to keep remembering to obey?** (*Yes. God wants us to listen to the Bible and do what it says.*)
4. **Let's say or sing the memory verse together.** (*James 1:22: Do not merely listen to the Word. . . Do what it says.*)

**Aim Questions for 4's, 5's & K:**

1. **Do you ever get tempted to disobey your parents?** (*Yes. Everyone is tempted to do wrong things.*)
2. **What tempts you to feel worried or afraid so that you forget about what God says?** (*Let the children think of potentially scary or difficult "trials" in their lives.*)
3. **How can you remember what God says about obeying?** (*Listen to God's Word and do what it says.*)
4. **Should you listen to the Bible and then forget what it says, or does God want you to listen and then do what He says?** (*Say the memory verse.*)

**Key for symbols:**

- This box symbol represents ideas that can be used for two-year-olds through kindergarten. Please remember to slow down the pace for two-year-olds and keep the pace moving for five-year-olds.
- ② This symbol represents ideas that are best used for two- and three-year-olds.
- ④ This symbol represents ideas that are best used for four-year-olds through kindergarten.

**Background Information for Teachers:**

**James Chapter 1: The Test of Trials and Temptations**

**A. Theme: Tests for True Faith**

The book of James is all about the "work" of saving faith. James upholds God's sovereignty in salvation by demonstrating His power in sanctification. If God can justify a wicked sinner and spiritually raise him from the dead, surely He must be able to sanctify him as well. This is James' point in his epistle: all who are saved will manifest the fruit of righteousness. Therefore, the letter is focused on the practical godliness that is the result of true saving faith. If a person has the "root" of salvation, he will also have the "fruit" of it as well.

**Author: James**

There are four individuals named James in the New Testament: James the Son of Alphaeus (Matt. 10:3); James the father of Judas, not Iscariot (Luke 6:16); James the son of Zebedee and brother of John (Matt. 4:21); and James the half-brother of Jesus (Mark 6:3). Of these four, only two are considered as potential authors of this letter. The first is James the brother of John (Matt. 4:21). But according to Acts 12:2, he was martyred early in church history and could not have written it. This leaves James, the oldest half-brother of Jesus Christ (Mark 6:3). James at first did not believe that Jesus was the promised Messiah (John 7:5) but later came to saving faith (1 Cor. 15:7).

James became the key leader in the Jerusalem church (cf. Acts 12:17; 15:13; 21:18; Gal. 2:12), being called one of the "pillars" of that church, along with Peter and John (Gal. 2:9). James was martyred ca. 62 A.D., according to the first century Jewish historian Josephus. Comparing James' vocabulary in the letter he wrote which is recorded in Acts 15 with that in the epistle of James further corroborates his authorship. The word (*chairein*) in the greeting of the letter in Acts 15 and James 1 is unusual and found in the writings of this James.

**Date of Writing: ca. 44-49 A.D.**

James writes in 1:1, "To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations." This most likely refers to the dispersion of Acts 12 under Herod Agrippa (ca. 44 A.D.). Since the letter was written to Jewish believers and there is no mention of Gentile believers, an early date is most likely. There is also no mention of any of the events associated with the Jerusalem Council in Acts 15 (ca. 49 A.D.). Therefore, the rough dates of ca. 44-49 make this one of the earliest epistles written.

**Setting:**

James writes to Jewish Christians who have been scattered abroad by the persecution of Herod Agrippa. It is known as a "general" epistle because the letter would have been distributed broadly and not to any specific church or locale of believers. These Christians were struggling with problems that were testing their faith. Being a resident of the Jerusalem church and a Jewish believer, James wrote to them to encourage and exhort them to live according to the genuine faith that was within them.

**Outline:**

The Test of Trials (vv. 3-11)

The Test of Temptations (vv. 12-18)

**Synopsis:**

As the half-brother of Jesus, James was an eyewitness to the childhood and ministry of Jesus Christ and saw all that He did and heard all that He proclaimed. Later on in his life, he submitted his heart to Jesus, not as his older brother in the flesh, but as his Lord and Savior.

James later became one of the key leaders of the Jerusalem church. As a Jewish believer, he understood what his fellow Jews had to go through in order to become a Christian. It was difficult for many of them to forsake their legalistic Judaism and to follow Christ alone. After they became saved, they not only struggled with their still-Jewish friends and neighbors, but they also were heavily persecuted for being a follower of Christ.

Under Herod Agrippa, the Jewish Christians were persecuted (Acts 12), and many were dispersed throughout the region of Palestine and Asia Minor. No longer fitting in their former Jewish religion and being the target of Roman ostracism, these believers began to suffer, and the pressure of their burdens were causing some to lose heart. It is under these circumstances that James picks up his pen to encourage and exhort Jewish believers to remain faithful to the Lord as a sign of true, genuine, saving faith. For those who were a part of these congregations, who were not actual believers but merely professing believers, James' letter serves to grab their attention and to awaken them to their own deception.

**The Test of Trials (vv. 3-11)**

The first test that James gives for true faith is the test of trials. How a person responds under trial reveals his true inner character. James tells us that a genuine Christian will do two things when faced with a trial. First, he will rejoice (v. 2) and count it joy, knowing that God is in control and has placed this specific difficulty in his way. James wanted his fellow Christians to respond differently to trials than the typical non-Christian would. Because this response would be so radically different, a person could not help but acknowledge that he or she was saved.

**(Background Information, continued)**

Second, a real Christian will endure and persevere in the midst of trials. Literally, James says that a believer will "remain under" the pressures that the trial puts on him. This is the mark of a true believer, and this is the manner in which we should face the various struggles God puts in our lives. A non-Christian will want to flee from his trial and won't persevere. The reason God wants us to endure is because our faith will become more mature and stronger as we learn to trust in God and not in ourselves. Spiritual growth takes place when our faith is tested!

If a Christian struggles with understanding how a certain trial fits within the grand scope of God's purposes, God hasn't left him alone to figure it all out by himself. That is why God commands us to ask Him for wisdom (v. 5) and to ask in faith without any doubting. With God's wisdom, we will be able to see the trial for what it is: a tool of God to make us stronger in faith!

**The Test of Temptations (vv. 12-18)**

The second major test James gives is that of temptation. How a person responds to temptation is a sure sign of whether that person is a believer or not. When a person blames God for his trials and temptations, that person does not possess saving faith. James makes it clear that God cannot be tempted to sin because there is no sin in His holy and righteous character. And when a person is tempted, he is tempted because of his own sinful desires, not because of God tempting him. James wants to let the believers know that no matter how difficult a trial or temptation may be, we can never blame God for our sin because He is perfect.

Therefore, James tells us that we sin because of our own selfish, sinful desires within us. Just like a fish that devours a fish hook that's covered with bait, so too our own hearts are tempted by the enticements of sin. At that moment of temptation, we can choose either to joyfully obey God or willfully rebel against Him and do what we want to do. James tells us that this is when sin begins. As a result, sin produces physical and spiritual death for everyone.

Yet, God in no way is responsible for our sins. Even though He is sovereign and controls everything that happens in His universe, man is still responsible for his unrighteous acts. James gives a wonderful promise in vv. 17-18 by telling us that God does not change, and everything that is good comes from His good and gracious hand. Therefore, all His children can ever expect from Him are good and perfect gifts of grace.

James concludes the first chapter by calling believers to obey God's Word (vv. 19-27). Being a "doer" of the Word is far more important than merely being a "hearer." In fact, if someone is only a hearer, James tells him that he is deceiving himself into thinking he is really a Christian. True faith acts upon the truth of God's Word and doesn't simply sit back and listen to it. True faith produces good works of loving obedience towards God.

**Application: The Testing of True Faith**

One of the best ways in which a person can see what is inside his own heart is by observing his response in the middle of a hard and difficult trial. A true believer will respond in a manner that shows others the power and grace of God, whereas an unbeliever will respond sinfully and selfishly. A true Christian will have joy and will patiently endure the trial without blaming God at all. A non-Christian will have complaints and won't endure, and will blame God for the trouble in his life. What is your attitude in the middle of a trial or temptation? Could you say that you are a believer based upon your responses? Would others point to your life and say, "That person is different because of the way he responds to trials!"? Trials and temptations are a good way to see if we possess true, saving faith.

 **Hook:**

**Listen and Do Center:** Seat the children in the small group, and the teacher will go around to every child and whisper an action for that child to do. The child is to wait until everyone in the group is given an instruction and then everyone is to get up at the same time to perform the action whispered into his ear. Some of the actions could include: jump up and down, crawl, clap hands, kick feet, "moo" like a cow, lie down and go to sleep, scratch yourself, pat your head, etc. Start the children at the same time and watch to see who remembered what to do. Are some people doing the same activity because they saw someone else doing it? In today's Bible Adventure, James teaches us that we are not only to listen with our ears to the words in the Bible but we are to do what we are asked. Sometimes it is easier to look at others and do what they are doing rather than obeying our parents.

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**Memory Game Center:** Bring three empty cottage cheese containers and three different colored balls that fit under them to class. Put the balls under the containers and move them around the table to try to confuse the children. Who was watching and knows where the ball is that you ask for? "In today's Bible Adventure, James teaches that we are to remember what we learn. We need to be careful watchers and listeners when the Bible is being taught."

**Stay Away From Temptation! Center:** Tie a medium-sized magnet to the end of a three- or four-foot string. Set up a maze on the floor of materials (temptations) that would be attracted to the magnet. You could even label some of the items with the temptation pictures. Suggested materials you could use would be small, empty tin cans, large paper clips, or kitchen utensils. Have the child hold the string with the magnet on the end and pull it through the maze without picking up any of the "temptations" along the way. Who can go all the way through with his magnet still clean? A tape line marking out the safest route through the maze will help the younger children to focus by keeping their magnet on the tape line. In today's Bible Adventure, we'll learn that temptation is something that makes you want to do wrong. We should try to stay away from temptations.

**Look and Remember:** Have each child look into a mirror and then go to a table and draw what they remember about themselves. Do we forget or remember what we look like? When we listen to God's words in the Bible, do we forget them right away, or do we remember what He wants us to do? God wants us to listen and remember, not listen and forget.

**Play Dough Ears and Hands:** Form ears to hear God's word and hands to obey it. Discuss tempting situations and the right thing to do to obey.

**New Game Requires Listening!** Our Bible Adventure story today is about listening. We are going to play a new game. That means you get to practice listening. You will have to listen well to the instructions, so you can have fun playing this game. If you don't listen, you won't do the right thing and it won't be any fun for you. We are going to play "Scipmylo!" Okay, listeners, what is it called? Yes, "Scipmylo!" That is "Olympics" spelled backwards. That means we are going to do things backwards. Line up along one wall of the room. I will give you instructions on how to cross the room and stop. Let's all walk backwards to the other side. Now let's hop backwards to where you began. Blow backwards (pull air in with deep breaths instead of blowing out) while walking forward to the other side. Clap your hands behind your back while walking backwards. Tip-toe backwards. Slide your feet backwards. Brush your hair backwards. Laugh backwards! No, you can't laugh backwards but you can laugh while you walk backwards!

**Listening and Obeying Puppies:** Have you ever had a puppy and taken it to obedience school, a place where dogs learn to obey? For a while, let's pretend you are puppies at an obedience school. Get on your hands and knees and remember you are a puppy and I am the teacher! When I tell you to get into a new position, you may bark quietly. If I hear you bark at any other time, you disobeyed and are out of the game. The first thing we are going to learn is "sit!" (*Sit on your legs with your hands still on the floor.*) "Roll over." (*Lay on your stomach and roll over.*) "Stay." (*Remain in place while the teacher walks around.*) "Play dead." (*Lay flat on the floor.*) "Fetch." (*Place several balls on the floor on the opposite side of the room.*) Alternate these instructions with going back to their hands and knees. Compliment them on being good listeners and obedient puppies. It is hard for puppies to obey when they are tempted to run and wiggle all the time. We are going to talk more about temptations, listening, and obeying today.

**Temptations to Disobey: (JAM01ECGF10)** Discuss listening and obeying while children color pictures of times they might be tempted to lie, steal, get angry, fight and hit, as well as pictures showing obedience.



## Book:

### Presentation Ideas -

Color and mount the **JAM01ECGF1**, **JAM01ECGF2**, **JAM01ECGF3**, and **JAM01ECGF4** pictures on construction paper. Show them as you tell the Bible Adventure. Save the pictures and use them for review as you continue through the book of James.

Wear your “Faith Works” tool belt each week during the lessons in James and add a new tool each week to your belt. Remind the children that true faith in Jesus works out in an action. This week’s tool is a saw that reminds us that God wants us to listen to His words in the Bible, but He also wants us to do what it says.

**Bible Fingerplay:** This rhyme can be said before a child opens up the Bible.

The Holy Bible is God's book. *(Hold hands with palms together.)*

Let's open it and see, *(Open hands with palms up.)*

Where He tells us of His love,

He loves you, He loves me. *(Point to others and then to yourself.)*

### Bible Adventure for 2's & 3's-

*(Have one of the children open your Bible at the bookmark you have placed in the book of James.)*

Let's say the name of the Bible book we are hearing about. *(Have the children say “James” several times.)* Do we have anyone named James in our class?

*(Show the JAM01ECGF1 picture.)* James was Jesus' half brother. Jesus and James grew up in the same home in Nazareth.

James wrote in his letter, “You and I have temptations to do wrong things and disobey.” Temptation is something that makes you want to do wrong.

*(Show the JAM01ECGF2 picture.)* You might be tempted to disobey your mom and dad. Every day you will be tempted to do what you want to do rather than doing what your parent asks you to do. *(Ask the children to get defiant looks on their faces. Have them put their hands on their hips.)* Will you remember to do what God says is right, or will you forget about what God says and disobey? *(Have the children form a Bible with their hands, nod their heads “yes,” and say, “I will remember what God says.”)*

*(Show the JAM01ECGF3 picture.)* Sometimes, you will be tempted to be afraid. You will feel scared and feel like crying. *(Have the children make sad faces and quiver their lower lips.)* God says in the Bible that He is always with you and that you never have to be afraid. When you are tempted to be scared, will you remember what God says, or will you forget what He says? *(Have the children form a Bible with their hands, shake their heads “yes,” and say, “I will remember what God says.”)*

*(Show the JAM01ECGF4 picture.)* The only way we can find out what God wants us to do is by listening to the Bible and by listening to our parents. *(Hold your Bible up.)* Do you want to find out what God says so that you can obey, or do you only want to play and do what you want to do like the child in this picture? *(Have the children form a Bible with their hands, shake their heads “yes,” and say, “I will remember what God says.”)*

*(Show the JAM01ECGF5 picture.)* James says, “Listen with your ears to the Bible. *(Cup your hands behind your ears.)* But don't just listen. Do what God says. Keep on obeying every time. Don't remember to obey some of the time, but then forget and disobey the rest of the time. God can help you remember to obey every time.”

**Prayer:** Dear God, thank You for the book of James that tells me to keep on obeying when I am tempted to disobey. Help me listen and remember to obey my parents every time. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Bible Adventure for 4's, 5's & K-

*(Have one of the children open your Bible at the bookmark you have placed in the book of James.)*

Let's say the name of the Bible book we are hearing about. *(Have the children say “James” several times.)* Do we have anyone named James in our class?

*(Show the JAM01ECGF1 picture.)* James was Jesus' half brother. They grew up in the same home, but James did not know that Jesus was the One who would die to forgive his sins until after Jesus had been raised from the dead. Then James believed that his brother, Jesus, was the Savior who could take away the wrong sins in his heart. James had true faith in Jesus.

James wrote in his book, "You and I have temptations to do wrong things and disobey." Temptation is something that makes you want to do wrong. If you have true faith in Jesus and love Him, you will want to obey Him and your parents. When you are tempted to disobey, you will want to obey.

*(Show the JAM01ECGF2 picture.)* You might be tempted to disobey your mom and dad. Every day you will face the temptation to do what you want to do rather than doing what your parent asks you to do. If you have true faith in Jesus, you will want to remember to obey. Will you remember to do what God says is right, or will you forget about what God says and disobey? *(Have the children form a Bible with their hands, shake their heads "yes," and say, "I will remember what God says.")*

*(Show the JAM01ECGF3 picture.)* Sometimes, you will be tempted to be afraid or sad. You may be worried and start to cry. God says in the Bible that He is always with you, that you never have to be afraid or worried. When you are tempted to be scared or worried, will you remember what God says, or will you forget what He says? If you have true faith in Jesus, you will want to remember to obey. *(Have the children form a Bible with their hands, shake their heads "yes," and say, "I will remember what God says.")*

*(Show the JAM01ECGF4 picture.)* The only way we can find out what God wants us to do is by listening to the Bible and by listening to our parents. Do you want to find out what God says so that you can obey, or do you only want to play and do what you want to do like the child in this picture? *(Have the children form a Bible with their hands, shake their heads "yes," and say, "I will remember what God says.")* If you really love Jesus, you will want to obey.

*(Show the JAM01ECGF5 picture.)* James says, "You must listen to what God says in the Bible, but you must do more than just listen with your ears. If you really love Jesus, you will do what God says. You will keep on trying to obey every time. Don't remember to obey some of the time, but then forget and disobey the rest of the time. Remember to keep on obeying every time."

James says that we can even be glad when hard or sad things happen to us or our family because then we can practice obeying. It is easy to obey when our parents make it easy for us. But, we have to learn to keep on obeying when it is hard to obey and we are being tempted to do very wrong things.

How can you and I remember to obey God when we are tempted to disobey? We keep listening to the Bible so that we will remember to obey. James says, "Don't be like the person who looks in a mirror, then walks away and forgets what he looks like. Don't look in the Bible and then forget what it says, doing just what you want to do. Look into the Bible and remember what God says. Don't walk away and forget to obey." If you really love Jesus, you will try to obey your parents every time. If you really love Jesus, you will obey whenever you are tempted to disobey.

**Prayer:** Dear God, thank You for the book of James that tells me to keep on obeying when I am tempted to disobey. Help me listen and remember to obey You and my parents every time. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### Look:

**Aim Questions:** Tape the Aim Questions to some real tools and discuss what each tool does as the children come up to select the correctly numbered question for the teacher to read. Emphasize that true faith works just as these tools work at the jobs they each do.

**Memory Verse Review:** Each week during the book of James, the teacher can put on his tool belt (see Took section) while going over the memory verse. This week the saw can be attached to the belt while the verse is being said. The tool belt is to demonstrate that true faith produces good works of loving obedience towards God.

**Snack:** We learned that it isn't enough to listen to God's word, we need to obey it, also. It isn't enough to just listen to our parents. We need to listen and obey! As I whisper instructions (see below) to each of you about our snack time today, you have to quietly remember what I said and obey it later. If you listen, remember, and obey, you will be happy! Then sing a song like "Shake the Sillies Out" or do some exercises. Now it is time to remember what I told you to do and to obey. Let's go do it! Instructions: Tell each child to go to the table and, without saying a word, make a happy face with the cheese tube on the cracker that is on the napkin.

**Bible School Day Finger Play:**

When the sun lights up the sky,  
I sit right up and rub my eyes.

*(Arms in a circle.)*

*(Rub eyes.)*

I eat my breakfast, brush my teeth,

*(Eat and brush teeth.)*

On go my clothes, then shoes for my feet. *(Pretend to dress.)*  
Then off to Bible School I go, *(March in place.)*  
To learn what God wants me to know. *(Point up.)*

**"James and Jesus Were Brothers" Obstacle Course:** This obstacle course can be done outside. Two children will run it together while holding hands. Set out three or four obstacles each for two teams with a start and finish area. On a signal from the teacher, two children will step together in and out of a box, duck through a held hula hoop, run around a circle of cones, jump across two separated ropes on the ground, and run to the finish area. They stay at the finish line with their partner until everyone on their team has had a turn at the course. If time allows, repeat the course by going through it in the opposite direction.

**"Ears and Hands" Memory Verse Review: (JAM01ECGF7 and JAM01ECGF8)** Let the children glue GF8 ears onto the GF7 children as you talk about them listening to God's Word and their parents. It is not enough just to listen to the Bible, we must also do what it says. The children can glue GF8 hands to their GF7 children to remind them that we must be obeying with our hands and feet as well as with our ears.

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**Parachute Activities:** Using a parachute or large flat sheet, have the children hold on to the edges while sitting down around it. On a signal from the teacher, all the children lift the sheet and look at the others across from them under the sheet. Repeat a couple of times and call out two or three names of children who let go of the sheet, crawl under the sheet to the opposite side, and take a new position. Next, put a beach ball on the sheet and have the children try to roll it off the opposite side of the sheet by raising the sheet over their heads. Explain that the ball is a temptation and everybody should try to keep it away from them. Next, have everybody pull the sheet toward themselves and lean backwards, causing a tug-o-war. Last, everybody pull the sheet up to their chins and lay down and go to sleep. The parachute is an activity that requires good listening skills and group cooperation. The temptation will be for some to "do their own thing" so this can be discussed if this becomes a problem.

**Running from Temptation: (JAM01ECGF6 and JAM01ECGF10)** Let the children each color a GF6 picture of a child running from temptations. Decrease the size of the GF10 pictures and let children select the things that would most likely be temptations for them. Talk about running from doing wrong things so they can obey their parents and the Bible. Talk with them about their choices.

**"Listen and Do" Booklet: (JAM01ECGF11)** Give each child a GF11 page. Fold it in fourths so that the picture of James is on the first page of the booklet. Let the children color their booklets as they talk about the Aim Questions. Sing the memory verse song with them. Send the booklets home with the children and ask them to sing the song to their parents.

**Memory Verse:** After discussing and practicing the memory verse with the children, ask them to stand in a circle while two teachers form a bridge with their arms. Let the children go through the bridge as they sing the following song to the tune of "London Bridge." Catch several children in your arms and have them say the verse together on the last phrase of the song.

Do you know your Bible verse, Bible verse, Bible verse?

Do you know your Bible verse, do you \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_?

④ **Discussion Basket:** Talk with the children about different tempting situations they might face. As a child pulls a situation out of a basket, read it and discuss it with them.

You are asked to go outside and play, but you want to play with the toys inside.

You broke a friend's bike, and his parents are asking what happened.

Mom sees cookie crumbs are all over the floor. You took some but had been asked to wait for dinner.

Your little sister hits you and you want to hit back.

You get very angry with your friends because they were playing with your game.

You see a small toy in your friend's yard that you want very badly.

You are told to clean your room but a friend comes to the door to play.

You are told never to cross the street, but you see a dog and want to pet him.

Mom asks you why the dirt is on the wall, and you don't want to say you did it.

Your friend hits you because you moved his toy.

You are in the middle of a game, and Mom says it is time to go to bed.

You go to bed without brushing your teeth, and Mom asks you if you did brush them.  
You are told to put on a jacket before going outside, but you go out without one.

- ④ **Sit or Stand Game:** Assign a child to be a leader. The leader stands in front of the children who are standing in front of their chairs. The leader gives commands (finger on temple, hands behind back, sad face, angry face, scratch head, bend forward, bend backward, hands over ears, elbows touching knees, knees shaking, hand rubbing tummy, etc.), and if he catches anyone not obeying, that child has to sit out for two actions. Let several children be leaders.
- ④ **Clap and Slap Game:** Practice with the children motions for temptations (use one hand to slap the other), listening (hands behind ears), and obeying (clap). Retell the Bible Adventure or make up a story about a family (see situations above). Every time the children hear one of these words, they are to do the appropriate actions.

### Songs:

**James 1:22, Memory Verse Song** (tune: "Jingle Bells")  
Do not just, hear (listen to) the Word, but do what it says.  
James one twenty-two says if you do, you will be blessed.  
(Repeat the first two lines.)

**Temptation** (tune: "Have Patience")  
Temptation! Temptation! Temptation comes each da-ay.  
Temptation! Temptation, leads you to disobe-ey.  
Remember! Remember! If you will just obey,  
Then God will make that old temptation quickly go away.

Obe-ey! Obe-ey! Obey your mom and da-ad.  
Obe-ey! Obe-ey, when tempted to do ba-ad.  
Remember! Remember! If you will just obey,  
Then God will make that old temptation quickly go away.

**We Will Not Forget God's Word**  
We will not forget God's Word.  
That is where His voice is heard.  
If we listen and obey,  
We'll be happy every day.

**Listen Song:** (tune: "Mary Had a Little Lamb")  
March in place while singing.  
Listen is what we will do, we will do, we will do. (Cup ears.)  
Listen is what we will do because we want to learn. (Point to head.)

Obeying is what we will do, we will do, we will do. (Open and close hands.)  
Obeying is what we will do because we love the Lord. (Put hands to heart.)



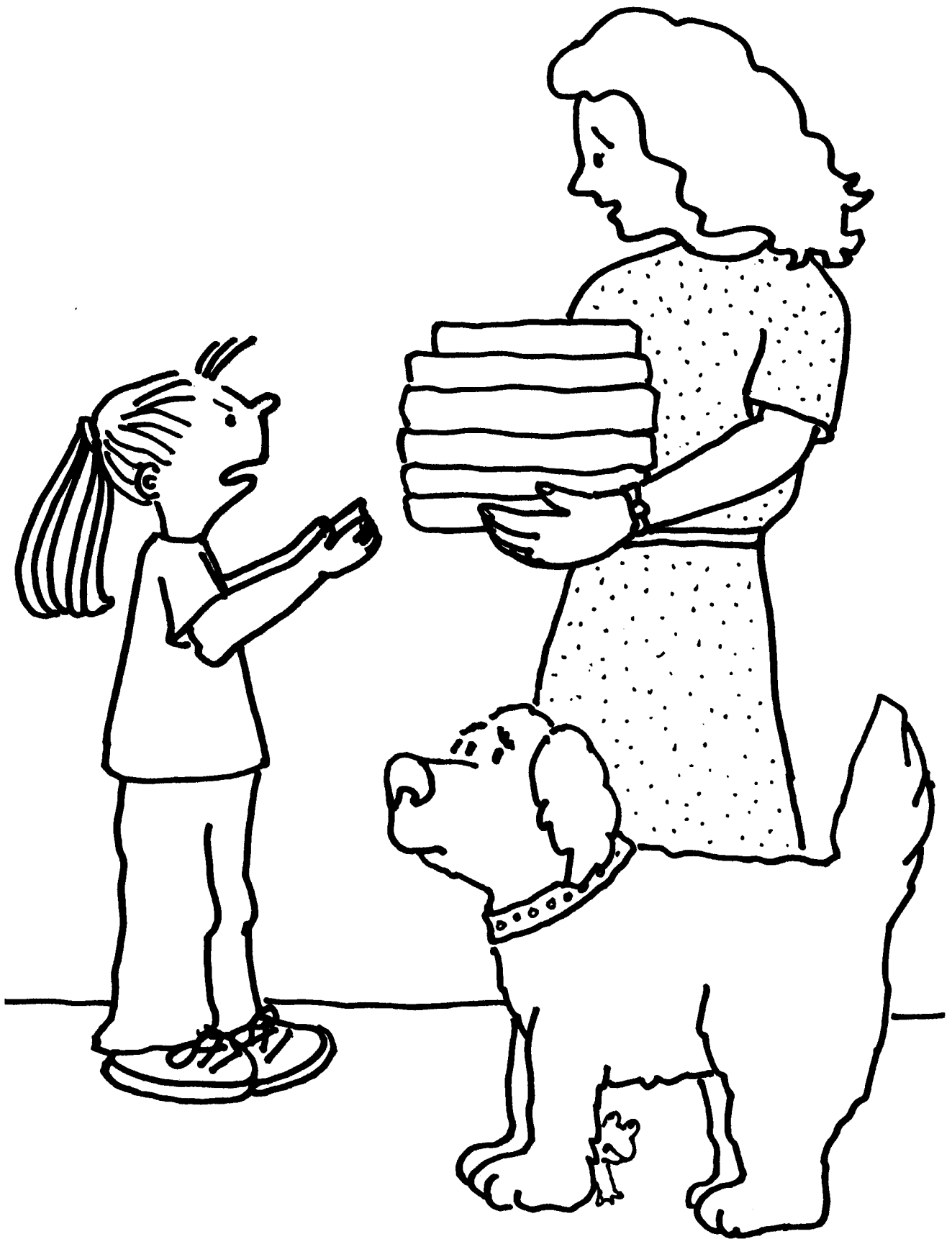
### Tool:

**Work Belt Tool: (JAM01ECGF12 and JAM01ECGF13)** In the book of James, we are learning that if we believe in Jesus, we will put our faith in Him to work by obeying. Give each child about a 4' piece of 1/4" diameter rope or cording, a large paper clip, and a GF12 saw printed on cardstock. Punch a hole in the top of the saw piece. Color the saw and show the children how to attach it to their rope belt with a large paper clip. Encourage the children to keep their "Listen and Obey" belts at home and add another tool to it each week of our five-week study of James. This week, we learned to obey what we know is right to do even when we are tempted to do wrong. This saw is a reminder to cut away those temptations and obey.

- Heart Locket: (JAM01ECGF9)** Talk about how we use our ears to hear the Bible and our parents so that we can know what is right to do. Once we hear, we must do that right thing. We must want to obey with our hearts and put our hands to work doing it.
- Preschool Page for Parents: (JAM01ECPPP)** Send a page home with each child, encouraging parents to reinforce the Bible truths at home. Spend a few minutes before the children go home creatively reviewing the song and memory verse.



James wrote a letter that is called James in the Bible.



*Keep on obeying when you are tempted to disobey.*



Keep on obeying when you are tempted to worry or be afraid.



Keep on obeying when you are tempted to stop listening.



Keep on listening to God's Word and obeying what God says.



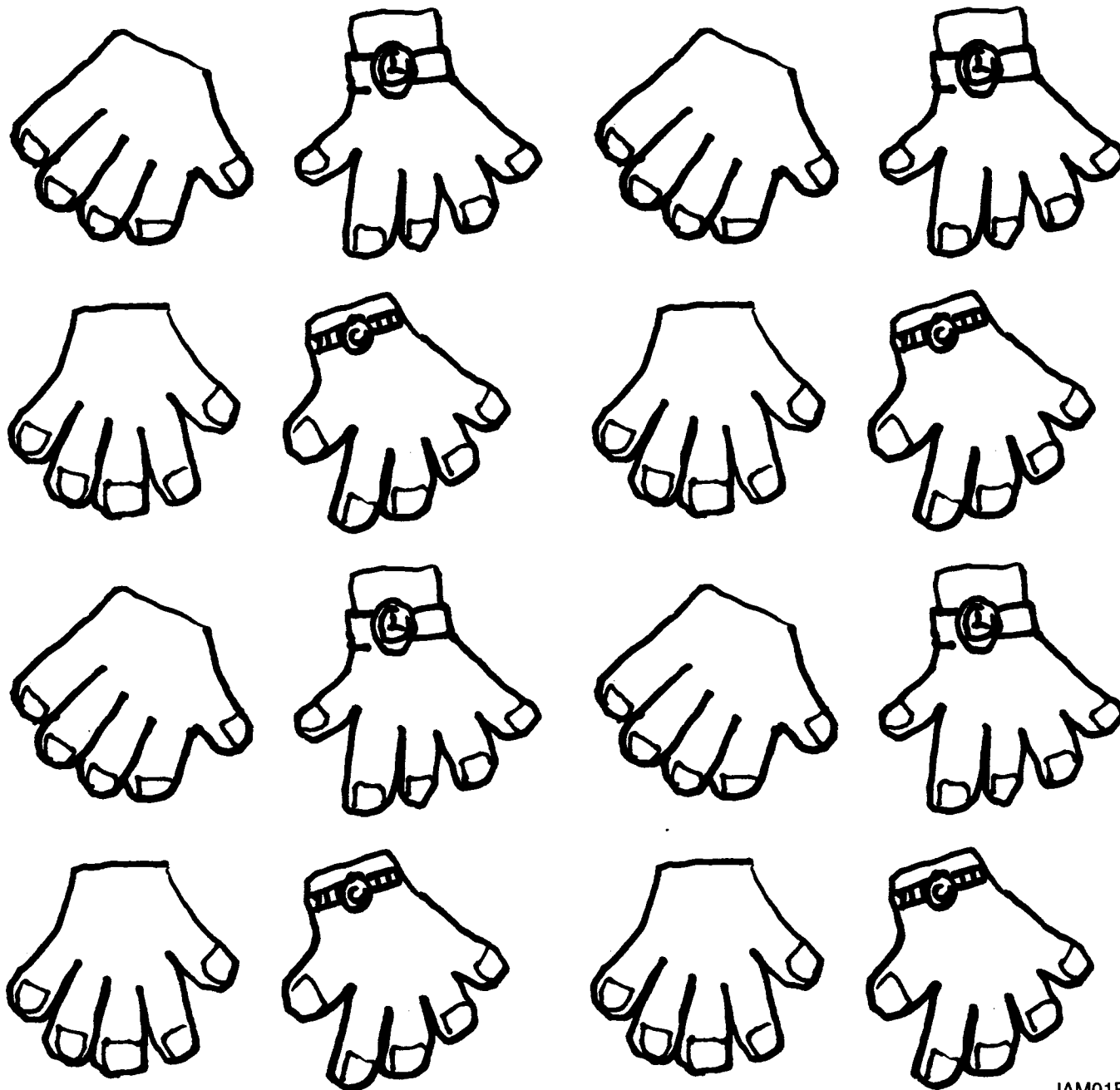
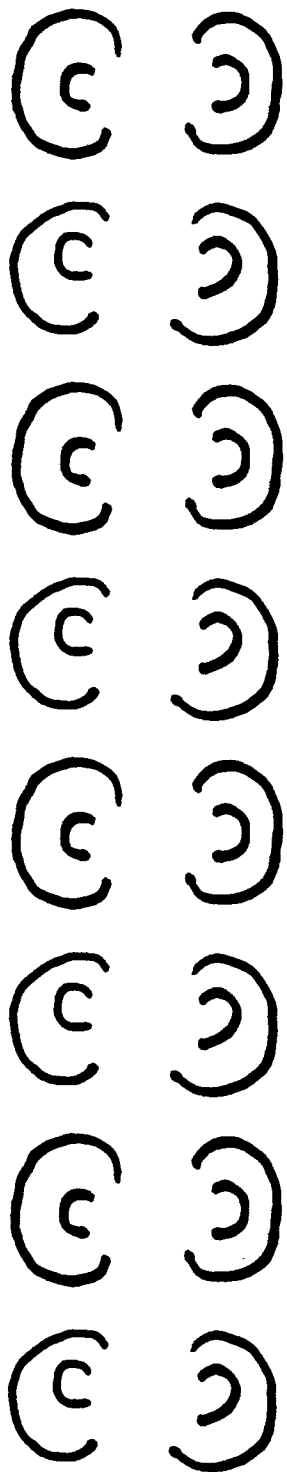
Run from sin. When you are tempted, keep listening to God's Word and obeying it.



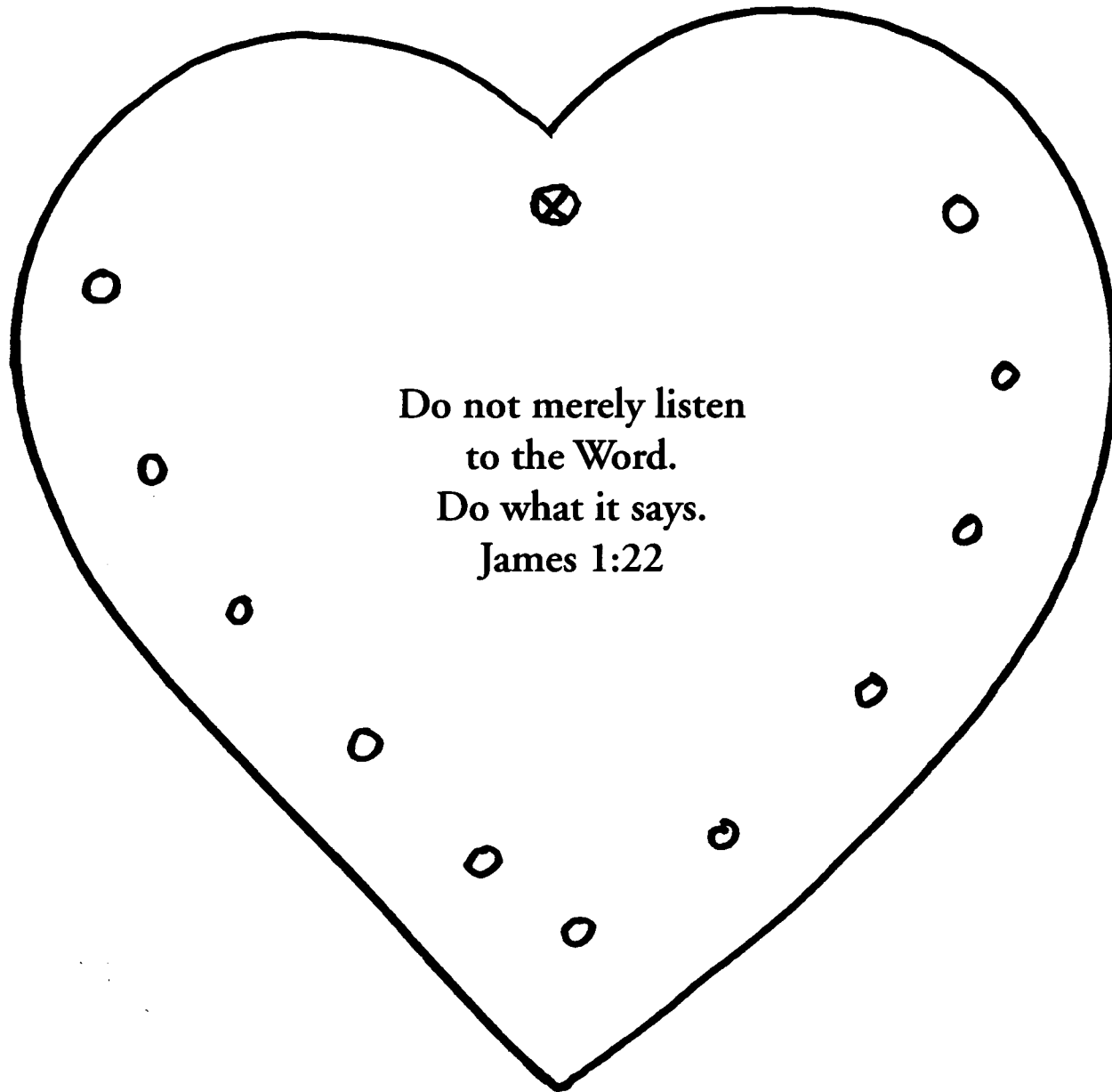
Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

James 1:22

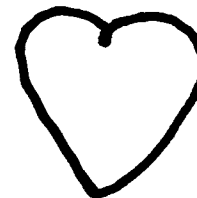
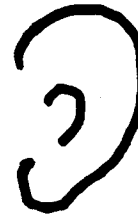
Hands and ears for the JAM01ECGF7 page.



# Heart Locket



Do not merely listen  
to the Word.  
Do what it says.  
James 1:22



1. Cut out 2 large hearts.
2. Punch out holes.
3. Lace the 2 large hearts together.
4. Draw around child's hand to cut out and put in or use hand provided.
5. Put hand, ear and heart inside.
6. Add a string at the top to go around child's neck.
7. Wear as a locket.



## This is what I learned today!

Today we learned that James was the brother of Jesus. He wrote the book of James to tell us that if we love Jesus, we will obey Him and our parents even when we are tempted to do something wrong. We are to listen to God's words in the Bible and then remember to do what they say.

**Save this page in a notebook for review.**

### Today's Memory Verse:

**2's & 3's: Do not merely listen to the Word.  
Do what it says. James 1:22**

**4's & 5's: Do not merely listen to the Word,  
and so deceive yourselves.  
Do what it says. James 1:22**

### Listen and Do Activity



To sharpen your family's listening and doing skills, ask each person to close his eyes (younger children may need to turn their backs) while you make a sound. It can be any sound, from clicking your tongue or clapping your hands, to snapping your fingers. Each child will begin imitating the sound when he figures out what it is. Obviously, the younger the child, the easier you will need to make the sounds. Have fun with this game and let your older children have turns making the sounds.

Don't forget to explain that listening is very important, especially when it comes to listening to God's Word. But listening isn't enough; God wants us to *do* what He says.

**James 1:22, Memory Verse Song**  
(tune: "Jingle Bells")

**Do not just, hear the Word (or, "listen to the Word")  
But do what it says.  
James one twenty-two says if you do,  
You will be blessed.  
(Repeat)**



Keep on listening to God's Word  
and obeying what God says.