

Bible Experience

James 1:5-8

If you need wisdom — if you want to know what God wants you to do — ask him, and he will gladly tell you. He will not resent your asking. 6 But when you ask him, be sure that you really expect him to answer, for a doubtful mind is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. 7 People like that should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 They can't make up their minds. They waver back and forth in everything they do. NLT

List of things you will need:

Your Journal

1) Read it

Read the passage 3 times. The first time read it normally to yourself. The second time read it out loud putting emphasis on the word “you”. The third time read it out loud but this time replace the word “you” with “I” or “me” (depending on which one makes sense)

2) Think about it

Start out asking God to show you what the passage means. Consider how the passage applies to your life. Write down any insights in your journal.

3) Memorize it

I have found writing things down to be a powerful tool in remembering them. Let's focus in on verse 5. Write it down 5 times. Make sure to include the reference James 1:5 when you write it. After you do that, try to say the verse without looking. Isn't it easy to memorize Scripture?

4) Get Personal

This passage promises that God will give you wisdom when you ask Him for it. Is there anything that you need wisdom for in your life? Write out a prayer in your journal, asking God to help you. Remember nothing is too big or too small to ask God about. If it concerns you, God cares about it and He will help you.

5) Expect God to answer

The second half of the passage tells us not to doubt when we ask God. Actively look for God's answer to your request. Remember that God can give you wisdom in many different ways. Sometimes He drops the answer into your mind in the form of a thought or idea. Other times He might give you wisdom through another person. He might use

circumstances to give you wisdom. Or in still other cases, the answer might be directly in the Bible.

When (not if) you get the answer, thank God for it. It doesn't matter how the answer comes. If God chooses to speak through the Bible, praise him. If he chooses to give you an idea, praise Him. If He uses another person to give you wisdom, praise Him.

A lot of times when I ask God to help me with something, the answer just pops into my head sometime later. At that point, I could just pat myself on the back for how clever I am, or I can recognize the Holy Spirit giving me wisdom.

A lot of times God operates in ways that people can explain away. One of the ways that we can choose to believe and not doubt is to give God credit in those times. Choose to look for God. Through many years of experience, I have found that the more I look for God, the more He moves in my life.