

# James Series Going Deeper

## 5- Day Devotional

### Week 3, Day 2: Ask in Faith

#### Verse of the Day

**Primary Scripture:** James 1:6

*But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.*

#### **Primary Focus Statement:**

Faith believes God is trustworthy enough to lead your life better than you can lead it yourself. To ask in faith means we come to God fully convinced that He is good, He is wise, He hears His children, and His way is always better than our own understanding. Faith does not ask God for wisdom while keeping personal control as a backup plan. Faith asks with a surrendered heart that is ready to trust and obey whatever God reveals.

#### **Devotional Teaching:**

James tells us that when we ask God for wisdom, we must ask in faith. This is incredibly important because wisdom is not merely information from God. Wisdom is direction from God. When we ask God for wisdom, we are not simply asking Him to give us better ideas. We are asking Him to lead us into His will, His way, and His truth.

That means faith is essential.

To ask in faith is to come before God with a settled trust in His character. It means we believe He is not withholding good from us. We believe He is not confused by our situation. We believe He is not distant from our pain. We believe He is not irritated by our need. We believe that when He gives wisdom, His wisdom is better than our instincts, our emotions, our opinions, our fears, and our plans.

This matters because many times we do not come to God looking for wisdom. We come looking for confirmation. We already have a plan. We already have a response prepared. We already have a decision we want to make. We already know what our flesh wants, what our fear wants, what our pride wants, or what our emotions want. Then we bring it to God and call it prayer, when deep down we are not really asking Him to lead us. We are asking Him to bless what we have already decided.

But James is calling us to something much deeper.

To ask in faith means we come with open hands. It means we come before the Lord and say, “God, I do not trust my emotions to lead me. I do not trust my flesh to lead me. I do not trust my fear to lead me. I do not trust my pride to lead me. I do not even trust my own understanding to lead me. I trust You.”

This is the heart of Proverbs 3:5–6. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths. That is what asking in faith looks like. It is not merely believing God exists. It is trusting God enough to stop leaning on yourself.

Faith says, “Lord, You know what I cannot see. You know what I do not understand. You know where this road leads. You know what is best for my soul. You know what will produce holiness in me. You know what will protect me. You know what will glorify You. So I am asking You for wisdom, and before You even answer, my yes is already on the table.”

That is real faith.

Faith is not pretending you have no questions. Faith is not acting like you have no fear. Faith is not denying the pressure of the trial. Faith is choosing to trust God in the middle of questions, fear, pressure, and uncertainty.

The issue in James 1:6 is not that a believer feels weak. The issue is a heart that is divided. It is the person who asks God for wisdom but does not really trust God enough to obey the wisdom He gives. It is the person who wants God’s direction only if God’s direction agrees with their desires. It is the person who wants heavenly wisdom but still wants earthly control.

And this is where many believers struggle.

We want wisdom without surrender.

We want clarity without obedience.

We want direction without submission.

We want God’s peace while still holding on to our plan.

But biblical wisdom is received by surrendered faith.

When you ask God for wisdom in faith, you are declaring that His Word is true, His will is good, His timing is right, and His leadership is trustworthy. You are laying down the illusion that you can see everything clearly on your own. You are admitting that the trial has exposed your need, and you are running to the only One who can lead you through it.

This kind of faith brings stability.

When you truly trust God, you are no longer ruled by every emotion that rises up in you. Fear may speak, but it does not get to lead. Anger may rise, but it does not get to rule. Anxiety may knock, but it does not get to become your master. Pain may be real, but it does not get to redefine God’s character.

Faith anchors your soul to the truth of who God is.

This does not mean the situation instantly becomes easy. It means you are no longer alone, no longer directionless, and no longer enslaved to your own limited understanding.

When trials come, the natural response of the flesh is to take control. The flesh wants to fix it quickly. Fear wants to escape it immediately. Pride wants to prove something. Anger wants to defend itself. Anxiety wants to create a thousand possible outcomes and prepare for every one of them.

But faith pauses and prays.

Faith says, “God, give me wisdom before I react. Give me wisdom before I speak. Give me wisdom before I decide. Give me wisdom before I move. Give me wisdom before I try to control what only You can carry.”

That is the kind of prayer James is calling us to pray.

And the beautiful promise is this: the same God who commands us to ask in faith is the God who gives generously. He is not trying to trick us. He is not trying to hide His will from surrendered hearts. He is not standing far away waiting for us to figure it out on our own.

He is a Father.

He gives wisdom to His children.

But He gives wisdom to those who trust Him enough to receive it.

So today, do not simply ask God for advice. Ask Him for wisdom with a surrendered heart. Ask Him to lead you, correct you, redirect you, humble you, strengthen you, and guide you. Ask Him with a heart that has already decided that His way is better.

Because the blessing of asking in faith is not only that God gives wisdom. The blessing is that your soul becomes anchored in the God who gives it.

### **Reflection Questions:**

Where are you asking God for wisdom but still trying to stay in control?

Are you truly seeking God’s direction, or are you hoping He will confirm what you already want?

What emotion has been trying to lead you in this season: fear, anger, pride, anxiety, hurt, or impatience?

What would it look like to put your “yes” on the table before God even reveals the next step?

Do you believe God’s wisdom is better than your own understanding, even when His way is harder?

**Action Step:**

Today, pray specifically over one area where you need wisdom. Before asking God what to do, first surrender your own plan. Tell the Lord, “My yes is on the table before I know the answer.” Then write down one practical act of obedience you already know God is calling you to take.