

RECEIVING FROM GOD
JANUARY 24, 2021

JAMES 1:5-8 (HCSB)

1. There are different ways to learn.
 - A. Auditory, by hearing: “Take heed what and how you hear.”
 - B. Visual, by seeing: wrecked car to deter DUI; fried brain to stop drug abuse; smokers’ lung to stop tobacco use.
 - C. Touch, by doing: hot stove, a live wire, bee hive, etc.
2. James learned from the best – his half-brother – Jesus!
 - A. What he learned is that it takes unwavering faith to receive from God, and we must become better receivers. God doesn’t have to become a better giver.
 - B. Supportive scriptures: **MATTHEW 21:22** To receive, one must believe, or have faith.
MARK 9:23, 11:24 (NLT)
3. James begins with wisdom, but ends with anything.
 - A. We’re saved by faith. We receive the Spirit by faith. **ACTS 19:2** We receive forgiveness, mercy and grace by faith. **ROMANS 5:2** By faith we access the grace we need.
4. Lessons from the Gospels.
 - A. **MATTHEW 8:2-3** – We must know God’s will.
 - B. **MATTHEW 8:8** – God’s Word is faith’s foundation.
 - C. **MATTHEW 9:28** – We must believe. He needs our yes.
 - D. **MATTHEW 14:35-36** – We must have knowledge of Him.
 - E. **MATTHEW 15:27** – We must persist in faith.

HELPS FOR RECEIVING

1. Be decisive about what you want or need.
2. Find scriptures that promise the answer.
 - A. **PSALMS 103:1-3**
3. Ask for what you want.
 - A. **1 JOHN 5:14-15** We know He hears us if we ask according to His will.
 - B. **MATTHEW 7:7-11** Relationship is what stands out.
 - C. **JAMES 4:1-3** We must ask, and our motive must be right.
4. Believe you receive.
 - A. **MARK 11:24 (HCSB)** We receive it first in its invisible form, so that it materializes in its natural form.
5. Stand against doubt.
 - A. **2 CORINTHIANS 10:3-5** Thoughts of doubt are sure to come, but we are to resist them and eradicate every image and thought that doesn’t line up with God’s Word and our faith.
6. Continue meditating on the promises of God.
 - A. **PROVERBS 4:20-23** Faith is of the heart not the head. Meditation in the Word protects the heart from spiritual diseases. **JOHN 15:7** The Word comes alive as we meditate.
7. Praise God for the answer.
 - A. **PHILIPPIANS 4:6-8** Prayer and thanksgiving go together.
 - B. **HEBREWS 13:15**
 - C. Andrew Murray said “it’s not in good taste to ask God for the same thing over and over again. That would be unbelief.” He said to thank Him for it over and over until it materializes.

CONCLUSION:

Faith involves trusting our Father unconsciously because we know He loves us more than any earthly father can and wants us to enjoy all that He has provided for us in his life through Christ. **PSALMS 37:5**