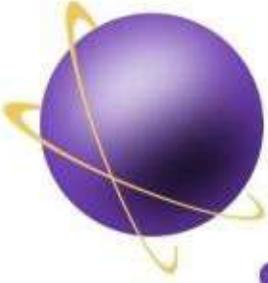


new 
dimensions
church
THERE'S SO MUCH MORE

Consecration Devotional

January 2022



Foreword from Pastor John

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2022.

Thank you for joining the New Dimensions Church family in our New Year's consecration as we start the year off together. My prayer is that this experience will focus us on the call of Jesus Christ on our lives. If we maintain this focus, the experience will yield complete healing, wholeness, restoration and transformation to our minds, bodies and spirits, In the Name of Jesus!

I believe God has called us to this time of consecration to align ourselves with God's Will, here at New Dimensions Church. We are praying that God give us His wisdom and understanding as we grow closer to God in 2022. The Lord faithfully guided the New Dimensions Church family through a Covid recovery 2021 and thanks be to God He has covered New - D members. The Lord has been so faithful. As we continue to move forward on our ministry journey, we will continue to lean and depend on God for His protection, wisdom and understanding. I am encouraging the saints to use this time to join with the New Dimensions family as we consecrate TOGETHER!

I would encourage each of you to consecrate over the weeks of January 3rd – 16th in your own way. I am encouraging you to set time apart for God, however you see fit. While we are consecrating corporately, your approach is individual, as only you know your normal life practices in determining sacrifices to God.

As a ministry, we will be fasting from January 3rd through January 16th, from 6am – 6pm. Feel free to adjust the times and style of fast as you see fit (i.e Daniel fast, normal fast, partial fast, absolute fast, etc.) **Please be mindful of the requirements for your medicines and follow them accordingly.** Remember, consecration is more than going without food, it's a mindset and lifestyle. Please use wisdom in your approach to fasting and let me know if you have any questions.

During this time of consecration please join us for corporate prayer on the following days and times:

- Monday – Saturday 6:00am – 6:15am on our conference line. (716) 427.1083 pin: 899998#.
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7:30pm – 8:00pm on our conference line. (716) 427.1083 pin:899998#.

Detailed below is a description of Consecration and its significance in the life of the believer. The corporate devotion for the next fourteen days is found on the following pages.

I love you all and appreciate you all. Through this time of consecration, we will recognize God is in Control...Strategies for Perseverance... and Focus on God's Faithfulness...I look forward to seeing what God is going to do for the New Dimensions Church as we transform individual and corporately in 2022.

Pastor John Savoy, New Dimensions Church

Introduction

As we embark on this New Year, our hope and trust are that this devotional will deepen our knowledge of God's word through readings of the book of James. The devotional will pull out concepts addressed in the lesson texts that we deal with in our present-day lives. The focus during this time will be to seek God and devise strategies for daily implementing more righteous thinking, speaking, and behavior. It is my hope that we will see ourselves through this time of consecration and endeavor in personal course correction in alignment with God's word.

This year I leaned heavily on a devotional by John MacArthur, "James, Guidelines For A Happy Christian Life." I used a lot of the information from this text and added some of my own. We will use this material in our corporate time of consecration. The devotional will ask pointed questions and encourages journaling, which was one of the strategies that I strongly endorse. During this time, I hope the devotional blesses you as we begin a new year together. The devotional is focused on James and the guidance he provided the church in navigating the issues of life. Through this time of reflection, my hope is that we identify areas where we can demonstrate more focus on God as we travel the highs and lows of life.

This time of consecration is intended to inspire us to seek God through Bible Study and Prayer. I want us to be more thankful for what the Lord has already done in our lives. Additionally, I want us all to seek the Lord for help and advice in your circumstances. On each of the consecration days, I am asking that you complete the following sections:

1. Thankfulness – Daily write Ten things for which you are thankful.
2. Need – Write what advice or help you need from God.
3. Pray & Read – Pray as you read God's word that it speaks to you and transforms you into His image.
4. Believe – Write what you believe God has promised you through this scripture in alignment with the need you listed. (i.e. "According to the Word of God, I believe...")
5. Speak – Speak your belief statement audibly. (Rom. 10:17)
6. Live – go through the day looking for opportunities to live your belief statement. (Jam. 1:22-25)

Through this time, I hope we all strive to recognize the importance of having Jesus in our lives and why we need a close walk with Him. If Christ is truly necessary in our lives, then we must have a desire to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. (Philippians 3:10, NIV)

Goals

1. To provide the saints of New Dimensions Church with topics and scriptures which will enhance their knowledge of Jesus Christ during this time of consecration and the rest of the year.
2. To encourage study of the word of God through the book of James.
3. To inspire the reading of God's word and the study of such for a deeper understanding of the word of God.
4. To equip the New Dimensions saints using this devotional with Biblical truths that will enable them to live victorious Godly lives.

5. The reader should be equipped, strengthened, fortified to show the love of Jesus and lead others to Jesus!

Consecration Guidance

The word *consecration* isn't a commonly used word, but even so, we might have an existing concept about what it means. In religion, the word *consecration* has been used in relation to the official ordaining of a person to be a preacher, a priest, or a missionary. This use implies consecration is for a special category of people.

But the consecration revealed in the New Testament is for **every** believer in Christ. It's not something only for knowledgeable Christians or spiritually mature ones. In fact, as we'll see, we cannot subjectively know the life of Christ in us or reach spiritual maturity without consecrating ourselves to the Lord. This is because consecration is the **basis** for every spiritual experience.

So what is consecration? Consecration is our giving ourselves to the Lord to become "a living sacrifice," as Paul says in

Romans 12:1: "I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable service."

In the Old Testament, a sacrifice was something set apart for God by being put on the altar. When people offered that thing to God, it no longer belonged to the one offering it. It belonged to God, for His use and His satisfaction.

Today, when we consecrate ourselves to the Lord, we become a living sacrifice. We give up our own claims on ourselves and put ourselves completely in His hands. Previously, our life was for our use and our satisfaction; now it is for His.

When we present ourselves to the Lord as a living sacrifice, we're simply saying, "Lord Jesus, I am for You. I'm no longer for myself, the world, or anything else. I am for Your use and Your satisfaction."

James Review

Authorship: It is thought that the author of the book is James, the half brother of Jesus. He became the recognized leader of the Jerusalem church. There is alignment between the writings of the epistle and James' contribution at the Council of Jerusalem.

Theme: The book of James is seen as a General Epistles as they were not targeted to a specific church or locality. James 1:1 makes it clear that the writing is for believers everywhere (i.e. all Jewish Christians, etc.)

Focus: James wrote to Jewish Christians who had been scattered throughout the Mediterranean world because of persecution in their hostile surrounding they were tempted to let intellectual agreement pass for true faith. This letter can have rich meaning for us as we are reminded that genuine faith transforms lives. We are encouraged to put our faith into action. It is easy to say e have faith, but true faith will produce loving actions towards each other.

The book of James is concerned with the practical aspects of Christian conduct; it tells how faith works in everyday life. James's purpose was to provide concrete ethical instruction. Compared to Paul, James shows much less interest in formal theology, yet the letter does have theological statements. Many subjects are discussed in the book, making it like a series of brief sayings arranged in the form of a letter. The writings of James strive to instruct in how to be doers of the word of God. The key focus areas are faith and works, the use of the tongue and prayer for the sick.

The book is broken down into three primary areas of focus:

- Genuine religion (1:1 – 27)
- Genuine faith (2:1 – 3:12)
- Genuine wisdom (3:13 – 5:20)

There is a lot we can learn in the study of James, join me as we Grow in God's Word, together.

Consecration - Day 1 From Trouble To Triumph

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 1:1-12](#)

Thought:

James's major emphasis in this section of his epistle is this: If a person's faith is genuine, it will prove itself during times of trouble, whatever the nature or source of the trouble may be.

The clear message of Scripture is that trials are a tool in the loving hands of the Lord. They test the strength of our faith; they humble us; they wean us from our dependence on earthly things; they call us to eternal and heavenly hope; they reveal what we really love; they teach us to value God's blessings; they develop enduring strength for greater usefulness; they help us better encourage others who are in times of trial.

Since trials are so productive, it is essential for us to respond rightly to them. James helps us greatly in this by giving five means for persevering through trials. He then tells us of the reward for perseverance.

Is there something in your life that you would call a "trial" or "test"? What makes it hard to be joyful in the midst of that difficulty?

How can the truths of this lesson help you move from troubles to triumph?

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 2

Understanding Temptation

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 1:13-18](#)

Thought:

It's human nature to deflect responsibility. We see this from the very beginning of creation. When God confronted Adam with his sin in the Garden of Eden, Adam's reply was, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate." When the Lord asked Eve, "What is this you have done?" she replied, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate" (Gen. 3:12-13). Eve blamed Satan, Adam blamed the woman, but really blamed God. And on it goes today.

So is God ultimately responsible for our temptation and sin? James provides four strong proofs that God is not responsible for our temptations nor for our weakness in succumbing to sin. James explains the nature of evil, the nature of man, the nature of lust, and the nature of God. As you read this passage, be thankful that through Jesus Christ, God has provided a way for us to be delivered from our sin natures!

How much are you tempted to blame other people or circumstances for your own sin? What have you learned in this lesson about that tendency?

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 3 Belief That Behaves

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 1:19-27](#)

Thought:

In the passage before us, James presents another test of true believers. The first two tests centered around our response to trials and to temptation. The third test is our response to the truth revealed in the Word of God.

One of the most reliable evidences of genuine salvation is a hunger for the Word of God (see Ps. 42:1). Just as a newborn baby does not have to be taught to hunger for its mother's milk, the newborn child of God does not have to be taught to hunger for God's Word, there is an affection for its truth and a desire in his heart to obey it. James focuses on a proper reception of Scriptures as God's Word, and then on a proper reaction to it, reflected in an obedient life. As you study this passage, ask God to increase, or renew, your hunger for His Word and give you strength to do what it says.

Reflect on your life and habits. Do your actions show that you have received Christ and are following Him in obedience? Why is humility necessary in hearing and obeying God's Word?

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 4 Favoritism In The Church

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 2:1-13](#)

Thought:

An attribute of God that is not often thought about is His impartiality. Yet this is a recurring theme throughout Scripture. God is absolutely impartial in His dealings with people. And in that way, as with other attributes, He is unlike us. Human beings (and that includes Christians) are not naturally inclined to be impartial. We tend to put people in pigeonholes, in predetermined categories, ranking them by their looks, their clothes, their race or ethnicity, their social status, their personality, their intelligence, their wealth and power, by the kind of car they drive, and by the type of house and neighborhood they live in. But those things are non-issues with God and are of no significance to Him. God looks at the heart and loves all people equally. He wants us to do the same.

James's practical epistle deals more with day-to-day issues than with theology and doctrine. In this passage, he stresses that showing partiality, or not showing it, is another kind of test of true and living faith. He focuses mostly on partiality in regard to social and economic status. Doubtless, these issues were special problems in the early church and were obviously problems with some of the Jewish believers "scattered abroad" (1:1).

Numerous passages in Scripture call on believers to show compassion to the poor. Identify two or three concrete ways you can begin to obey this command this week.

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 5 Dead Faith

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 2:14-20](#)

Thought:

James continues his series of tests by which his readers can evaluate whether their faith is living or dead. And he clearly says that a faith that is not acted out is really no faith at all. He's not saying that a person is saved by works (he has already clearly asserted that salvation is a gracious gift from God). He is saying that there is a kind of apparent faith that is dead and does not save. It is possible James was writing to Jewish Christians who had embraced the mistaken notion that since righteous works and obedience to God's law were not efficacious for salvation, they were not necessary at all. Thus they reduced "faith" to a mere mental assent to the facts about Christ.

The truth that James emphasizes in this text is that what we do reveals who we are. He is not speaking simply of beliefs and intentions in general, but of the foundational belief of saving faith. The genuineness of one's profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord is evidenced more by what a person does than by what he claims. As you study the passage, ask God to give you insight into the important relationship between faith and works, and to help you have a living faith.

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...") _____

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 6 Faith That Passes The Test

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 2:21-26](#)

Thought:

James has contrasted living faith with dead faith, saving faith with non-saving faith, productive faith with unproductive faith, godly faith with a kind of faith that is exercised even by demons. Now he continues his argument by giving real life illustrations of living faith: Abraham and Rahab. They were justified by not by their words of faith, or worship ritual, or any other religious activity. In bot cases their faith was demonstrated by action, by putting everything that was dear to them on the line for the Lord and entrusting it to Him without qualifications or reservation. They were supremely committed to the Lord, whatever the cost.

It is in the vortex of the great plans, decisions, and crossroads of life-where ambitions, hopes, dreams, destinies, and life itself are at stake-that true faith unfailingly reveals itself. Long before Jesus' crucifixion, Abraham and Rahab were willing to take up their crosses, as it were, and follow Him (Mark 8:34). They hated their life in this world in order to keep it in the world to come (John 12:25). Abraham and Rahab stand for all time as examples of those whose living faith passed the test.

In the overall patter of your life, do your actions vindicate that you do in fact, possess saving faith?

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 7 Taming The Tongue

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 3:1-12](#)

Thought:

The tongue is you in a unique way. It is a tattletale that tells on the heart and discloses the real person. Not only that, but misuses of this tongue is perhaps the easiest way to sin. There are some sins that an individual may not be able to commit simply because he does not have the opportunity. But there are no limits to what one can say, no built-in restraints or boundaries. In Scripture, the tongue is variously described as wicked, deceitful, perverse, filthy, corrupt, flattering, slanderous, gossiping, blasphemous, foolish, boasting, complaining, cursing, contentious, sensual, and vile. And that list is not exhaustive. No wonder God put the tongue in a case behind the teeth, walled in by the mouth!

Not surprisingly, the tongue is of great concern to James, being mentioned in every chapter of his letter. In the passage he uses the tongue as still another test of living faith, because the genuineness of a person's faith will inevitably be demonstrated by his speech. James personifies the tongue and the mouth as representatives of the depravity and wretchedness of the inner person. The tongue only produces what it is told to produce by the heart, where sin originates.

James teaches that true believers will possess a sanctified tongue, yet they must maintain a sanctified tongue. He gives three compelling reasons for controlling the tongue: its potential to condemn; it's power to control; and it's propensity to corrupt.

Take a few moments for quiet reflection. What recent "transgressions of the tongue" are you aware of? What is the solution for these wrong choices?

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...") _____

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 8 True Wisdom

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 3:13-18](#)

Thought:

In this passage James makes a transition from discussing teachers and the tongue to dealing with wisdom's impact on everyone's life. He supports the truth revealed in the Old Testament wisdom literature (the book of Job to Song of Solomon) that wisdom is divided into two realms - man's and God's, earthly and heavenly.

James offers wisdom as still another test of living faith. The kind of wisdom a person possesses will be revealed by the kind of life he lives. Those who possess the wisdom of man, the wisdom from below, will demonstrate by their lives that they have no saving relationship with Jesus Christ and no desire to worship, serve, or obey Him. On the other hand, those who possess genuine saving faith will manifest the wisdom of God, the wisdom from above.

How can a person tell if the wisdom he/she is receiving is man's or God's?

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 9 Friendship With The World

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 4:1-12](#)

Thought:

We've seen James examine a number of everyday behaviors that can serve either to authenticate one's claim to faith or highlight the absence or true saving faith. Now he addresses one's attitude toward the world. The central truth in this passage is, "Friendship with the world is enmity with God". James argues persuasively that genuine spiritual life and faithful Christian living involve separation from the world and all its countless contaminations. Conversely, a continuing, habitual friendship with the world is grounded in human wisdom and is evidence of unbelief. Such a lifestyle invariably leads to interpersonal conflict.

This passage admonishes readers to intentionally withdraw from their friendship with the world. As you study this lesson, ask God to help you put away any remaining vestiges of worldly living that might be impeding your spiritual growth. How? By humbly drawing near to Him.

How do your actions reveal where your true affections lie? In what ways are you too enamored with the things of this world?

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 10

Following Jesus Is Hard

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 4:1-12](#)

Thought:

Have you ever felt like it is you against the world? You chose to follow Jesus, and now life just seems too hard. No one seems to understand or agree with your decisions, even when you know they align with God's Word. Some days, even the right choices feel like the wrong choices, causing fear and doubt to set in.

The James passage promises this: "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you."

God calls us to live out His standards, no matter what anyone else says. Every decision we make is an opportunity to step closer to God or a step farther away from Him. When we make the decision to do what's right over what is easy, we draw near to God and our ability to resist temptation increases.

Taking the easy road might feel good at the time, but if we live by God's standards, He will reward us in a much bigger way than the world could ever even offer.

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration Day 11 Responding To The Will of God

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 4:13-17](#)

Thought:

For James, doing the will of God identifies another test of genuine saving faith. True Christians are characterized as “doing the will of God from the heart”. They joyfully, willingly pray, “Your kingdom come, Your will be done”.

On the other hand, a constant disregard for or lack of interest in God’s will is a certain mark of the presence of pride-the ugly sin also underlying conflict, worldliness, and slander. To disregard God’s will is tantamount to saying, “I am the sovereign ruler of my own life.” Such a prideful attitude is antithetical to saving faith. As James has already pointed out, “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble”.

True to the pattern he has followed throughout his epistle, James takes a practical approach to the issue of responding to Go’s will. In this brief passage James gives significant insights into the ways people respond to God’s will.

What does this parable teach you about priorities? About wealth? About certainties in life?

Believe: (“According to the Word of God, I believe...”)

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration Day 12 Richs, Trials, and Oaths

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 5:1-12](#)

Thought:

As noted throughout this study, James’s goal is to present various tests of genuine saving faith. Building on the teachings of Jesus, James presents a blistering denunciation of those who profess to worship God but in fact worship money. His rebuke of the wicked wealthy is in keeping with the tradition of the Old Testament prophets. James tells them to examine the true state of their hearts in light of how they feel about wealth.

He then shifts his focus to the topic of persecution, instructing the folks who are suffering at the hands of the rich and powerful to be patient and keep perspective. Verse 12 then touches on another custom during biblical times – that of searing oaths. This practice had become an issue in the church, particularly since swearing oaths was an integral part of Jewish culture and Jewish believers comprised a large segment of the early church. James commands them not to swear oaths and encourages believers to be distinctive in speaking the truth.

Which do you have to watch out for most in your own life: acquiring riches ruthlessly or unjustly, hoarding money uselessly, or spending wealth self-indulgently? What needs to change in your view of wealth and how to handle it?

Believe: (“According to the Word of God, I believe...”)

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 13 Righteous Praying

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Thought:

As we come to this final passage, it would be surprising, if, in this letter to struggling, persecuted believers, James neglected to mention prayer. A strong commitment to prayer is a prerequisite to enduring suffering and affliction. James's exhortation to prayer embraces the prayer life of the entire church. Individual believers are called to pray in verse 13, the elders in verses 14-15, and the congregation in verse 16.

This section also reflects James's compassionate pastoral care for his suffering flock; his main focus is on the casualties of the spiritual battle-the persecuted, weak, defeated believers. As the context and content of this section make clear, the subject is not physical illness or healing. Instead, its concern is with healing spiritual weakness, spiritual weariness, spiritual exhaustion, and spiritual depression through prayer, as well as dealing with the suffering and sin that accompanies it.

The final two verses form a fitting conclusion to the book of James. They express James's primary objective in writing his epistle: to confront those in the assembly of believers who possessed a false, dead faith. Here is one last salvation warning regarding those who identify with the church but are not regenerate. But rather than speaking directly to them, James calls on the genuine Christians in the church to do evangelism. He wants the believers to pursue the "make-believers."

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...") _____

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

Consecration - Day 14 I Need Healing

Thankfulness:

<u>1.</u>	<u>6.</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>7.</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>8.</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>9.</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>10.</u>

Need:

Pray & Read:

[James 5:13-20](#)

Thought:

Confession. The term stirs up memories. A day at court. Being a child caught in the wrong. A counseling session. Whatever the memory, it's probably not a pleasant one. The thought of confession makes our stomachs drop, our skin sweat, and our hearts race.

Although the process may be painful, confessing sin brings healing. Imagine having strep throat. Hiding your symptoms would only allow the sickness to keep growing and affect other parts of your body. When you have strep throat, you need to see a doctor. Hiding sin doesn't make it go away either.

Confessing to God sets our focus on Jesus and off of the sin. When we confess our sin, we rely on His forgiveness and thank Him for it. Confession removes what is standing between Jesus and us.

Confessing to each other opens the door for healing by allowing others to pray for us. James 5:16 says, "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." Our confession also sets up accountability. As people pray for us, they check in on our progress.

Believe: ("According to the Word of God, I believe...")

Speak: (Speak your belief statement.)

Live: (List how you plan to live out your belief statement.)

NOTES: