

# JAMES

MARK IT UP

## James 1:9-18 Discussion Guide

Week of 2/27/22

**Icebreaker:** What food that your doctor would disapprove of is your greatest temptation to devour?

**Getting Started:** Read James 1:9-18 as a group.

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We'll be highlighting Calvary's Shaping Values in this series. These values describe what's most essential to us as a collection of Christ-centered communities. This week's focus is...

**Moral Excellence:** We pursue deeper holiness in everyday living.

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**1.** What kind of trials and temptations can come from a lack of material resources and status? What about an abundance of resources and status?

**2.** In verses 9-10, James calls two types of Christ-followers who find themselves in very different circumstances (one lowly, the other rich) to consider and take pride in their future. How could the inevitable loss of earthly possessions and status (i.e., "humiliation") be a cause for "boasting"?

*Application:* What's your reaction to thinking of your life like the description of verses 10-11? Could there be something positive about it?

**3.** With verses 12-15 in mind, what do you think the difference is between a trial and temptation?

*Application:* How can we respond to trials in a way that helps guard us against temptations to sin?

**4.** Temptation, if left unchecked, threatens our Shaping Value of moral excellence. What's at stake with temptation according to verses 14-15?

*Application:* What do you think is our culture's attitude toward temptation?

**5.** Why do you think James says, "Do not be deceived," and then launches into a description of God's character and purposes in verses 16-18?

*Building Christ-centered communities of people  
fully devoted to loving God and loving others.*

*Application:* How can a clear and accurate grasp of God's character and purposes serve us in the fight against temptation?