

## Questions for Conversations

Much of James is proverbial. Down-home wisdom in a rather short form.

What proverbs or common sayings have been a part of your family and culture?  
(not necessarily asking spiritual here, it is an ice-breaker after all)

Where does James say temptation comes from (v. 14)?

What is the result of succumbing to temptation (v. 15)?

In stark contrast to death, the end result of temptation, God promises the crown of life to those who endure. How can you recognize that you are being tempted, in order to avoid succumbing to it?

In verses 16-18 James once again focuses on the true character of God, warning us not to be deceived by wrong ideas. How is God described in verses 17 and 18?

When God speaks, things happen. Things happen to us. Things happen in us. The Word of God is like medicine which goes down deep inside, healing our inner hurts and changing our inner motivations, so that we actually become different people (v. 18). How have you experienced the Word of God working healing and change in you?

Where in your life do you need the Word of God now to heal hurts or change motivations?

Read James 1:19-27. Here James introduces another of his key themes: the dangerous power of the human tongue. What clear directives does James give in verse 19?

What damage have you seen done to the cause of Christ because of the tongue?

When is it difficult for you to keep a tight rein on your tongue, and how do you seek to do so?

Share and Prayer