CROSS FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

An Introduction to James

James 1:1 John Crawford April 16, 2023

Who is James?...

- James was the half-brother of Jesus.
- James was the leader of the church in Jerusalem.
- James was a servant of God. (1:1)
- James was a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. (1:1)

Who Was James Written To?...

- Jewish Christians. (1:1)
- Jewish Christians who were scattered out of Jerusalem because of persecution. (1:1; 8:1-4; 11:19)
 - They were poor. (1:27; 2:2, 6, 14-26; 5:1-6)
 - They were being oppressed and exploited by the rich.
 - The rich were dragging the Jewish Christians to court. (2:6)
 - The rich were blaspheming and scorning the Jewish Christians' faith. (2:7)
 - The rich were defrauding the Jewish Christians' out of their wages. (5:4)
 - The rich were murdering some of the Jewish Christians. (5:6)
- James was a servant of God. (1:1)
- James was a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. (1:1)

Why Did James Write this Letter?...

- To encourage his readers to remain steadfast in the midst of the suffering. (1:3-4,12; 5:11)
- To encourage his readers to care for the poor, widows, and orphans that are in distress among them. (1:27; 2:5,15)
- To warn his readers to live in peace and unity in their relationships with each other. (2:1,15-16; 3:13-18: 4:1-3.11-12)

How is James Relevant For Us?...

- We have a whole lot of people in our church suffering and walking through trials right now.
- We have room to grow in becoming a more compassionate church.
- We have to be resolute in fighting against strife and division in our church.



Welcome to Cross Fellowship Church!

We are grateful that you have come to worship with us today and pray that you feel welcome. If you have any questions about our church, the service, sermon or anything else, we would love to talk to you! Stop by the Welcome Table in the lobby or talk to one of the elders. We also encourage you to complete a Visitor Information Card at the Welcome Table or online at crossfellowshipchurch.org/connect.

Order of Service

Call to Worship: 1 Chronicles 16:8-10

"Rejoice"

Scripture Reading: Psalm 89:5-8 "God Omniscient, God All Knowing"

Corporate Scripture Reading (Confession): Psalm 25:11, 16, 18

Corporate Scripture Reading (Pardon): Hebrews 4:15-16

"Before the Throne of God Above"

"He Will Hold Me Fast"

Prayer

Scripture Reading

Sermon: James 1:1

"Cornerstone"

Partaking of the Lord's Supper

Prayer and Benediction

Announcements

Exploring Membership Class

Sundays, April 23 & 30 / 12-2:30 p.m. / Social Room

Are you interested in membership at CFC, or would you simply like to learn more about our church? This two-part class takes place on consecutive Sundays immediately following the Worship Gathering in the social room (rm. 201). Lunch will be provided. Today is the last day to sign up. Sign up at crossfellowshipchurch.org/membership.

Prayer Gathering

Sunday, May 7 / 4-5:30 p.m. / New Haven

Join us for our church-wide Prayer Gathering. During our time together, we'll pray for one another and our church, and hear specific testimonies of how God is at work in the lives of some of our members.

Elders

John Crawford / john.crawford@ crossfellowshipchurch.org

Jared Chasteen / jared.chasteen@ crossfellowshipchurch.org

Bill Lehmer / bill.lehmer@ crossfellowshipchurch.org

Discipleship Communities

DCs gather in homes on Wednesday evenings to provide leadership, community, encouragement, and accountability as we live as disciples. For more information or to join a DC, visit crossfellowshipchurch.org/dc.

Nursing Mothers

During our Worship Gathering, we offer a nursing mothers' room with a livestream of the service next to our children's classes.

Children's Discipleship

In an effort to walk alongside parents in teaching children about the good news of Jesus, we offer the following classes.

Sundays at 9 a.m.

- K-3rd grade
- · 4th-6th grade

Sundays during the Worship Gathering

• Toddler room: ages 1-2

• Pre-K room: ages 3-4

Sundays at 6 p.m.

• Youth group: 7th-12th grade

Offering

Thank you for your generosity!
There are a few ways you can give:

- In the offering box on Sundays
- Through the Church Center app (iPhone and Android)
- Online at crossfellowship church.org/give (or scan the QR code)

