



**SAGUARO CANYON**  
CHURCH

# SERMON NOTES

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**AN UNDIVIDED HEART FOR GOD:  
JOY, PERSEVERANCE, AND WISDOM**

James 1:1-8

May 19, 2024

**BIG IDEA:** Maturity in Christ is marked by joy, perseverance, and wisdom.

## BACKGROUND INFO (v. 1)

Author: James—half brother of Jesus (*Mark 6:3; 1 Corinthians 15:3-7*)

Purpose: Faith should produce authentic deeds. (*1 Thessalonians 1:3*)

## JOY AND PERSEVERANCE (vv. 2-4)

Jesus endured trials with joy. (*Hebrews 12:1-3*)

Trials build and strengthen our spiritual muscles. (*Romans 5:3-5*)

Trials can make you bitter or better. (*Acts 5:40-42*)

## WISDOM (vv. 5-8)

Asking God should be our first priority. (*James 3:17*)

Ask in faith. (*Romans 4:20-21*)

Divided loyalties can cause us to doubt. (*1 Kings 18:21*)

## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

What is God trying to teach you right now, whether you are in a trial or not?

Whose approval do you seek primarily in your life? The approval of others or the approval of God? Do you fear God more than you fear man?