

When Life comes up just Short

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James 1:5-11

1. We need God's perspective on life.

James 1:5

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God..."

Psalms 111:10

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise."

2. Realize that God is giving.

James 1:5

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, **who gives** generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

John 14:26

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

3. God promises abundant life.

James 1:5

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives **generously** to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

John 10:10

"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly."

4. God gives painlessly to all.

James 1:5

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously **to all without finding fault**, and it will be given to you."

How to receive God's wisdom

1. Ask.

James 1:5-6

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask..."

2. Believe without doubting.

James 1:6

"But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind."

Proverbs 3:5-6 (Message)

"Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track."

3. Approach God with an undivided heart.

James 1:7-8

“Those who doubt should not think they will receive anything from the Lord; they are double-minded and unstable in all they do.”

Psalm 86:11

“Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.”

4. Remain humble.

James 1:9-10

“Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed.”