



Title: Try It Like This

Date: 11.27.09

Series: WWJD (What Would James Do?)

Text: James 5:12-16

Synopsis: In every field of human endeavor there are experts who give advice or tips designed to improve the performance of those engaged in that activity. An expert golfer may tell the novice golfer to “keep your head down” or “swing through the ball”. The expert musician may tell the novice musician to “learn your scales” or “develop your ear”. The expert writer may tell the novice writer to “write everyday” or “publish or perish” All these tips are designed to help the novice improve their performance.

But what if there were some practical tips that could help each of us improve our spiritual performance particularly in the face of adversity? And what if these tips were so practical and simple that anyone could do it? No, it’s not fasting for 40 days and nights. And it’s not learning Greek or Hebrew so that one can truly master the nuances of the original language of Scripture. James tells the persecuted church of the First Century to be truthful, pray, worship, and have accountability in their lives. These were the instructions offered to people who were struggling in their circumstances. It’s almost as if he is saying, “Here, try it like this.” Maybe those of us who are struggling with our own circumstances should “try it like this” as well.