

May 24, 2015  
James 1:5-8

## MAKE UP YOUR MIND

### I. Introduction: Ever Had A Bad Day?

**Illustration:** “ Alexander And The Terrible, Horrible, No Good Very Bad Day” by Judith Viorst

#### A. Last Weeks Message:

- Difficulties come into everyone’s life
- Our attitudes determine the out come
- We can be certain that God has a purpose for our trials.

**B. Today’s Message:** God did not intend for us to go through trials alone. (James 1:5-8)

“If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him, But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. [7] That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; [8] he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.” James 1:5-8

### II. Unpacking The Passage:

**A. The Problem:** \_\_\_\_\_

“He is a **double-minded** man is unstable in all he does.” James 1:8

Double Minded = \_\_\_\_\_

**B. The Prescription:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. Step One: Admit Our Need

“If any of you lack wisdom” Vs. 5a

2. Step Two: Ask God

“..... he should ask God” vs. 5b

3. Step Three: Ask God in Faith

[6] But when he asks, he must **believe** *and not doubt*, because *he who doubts* is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. James 1:6

**C. The Promise:** \_\_\_\_\_

If any man lacks wisdom he should ask God who gives generously to all without finding fault and it will be given to him. James 1:5

How God Gives:

- Continuously
- Generously
- Without finding fault

Questions To Ask When Making Decisions:

- Does This Decision Glorify God
- Will It Serve Others
- Will it help me mature like Christ

**III. Conclusion and Application**

**Points To Ponder**  
**May 24<sup>th</sup> to May 30th**  
**James 1:5-8**

**Open It:**

1. What doubts about God and prayer does the average person usually experience?

**Explore It:**

2. What is God's response when we ask for wisdom?  
([1:5](#))
3. What effect does doubt have on a person when he or she prays? ([1:6-8](#))

**Get It:**

4. When do you find it hardest to pray?
5. With what doubts have you struggled concerning God and prayer?
6. How can doubting affect a person's prayer life?

**Apply It:**

7. In what specific areas do you need to ask God for His wisdom this week?
8. How can you strengthen your faith in Jesus this week through whatever trials you may be facing?