

JAMES A BROTHER OF JESUS

I, James, am writing this letter. I serve God and the
Lord Jesus Christ.

I am sending this letter to you, the 12 tribes that are
scattered among the nations.

Greetings.

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,
whenever you face trials of many kinds, because
you know that the testing of your faith produces
perseverance.

Let perseverance finish its work so that you may
be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

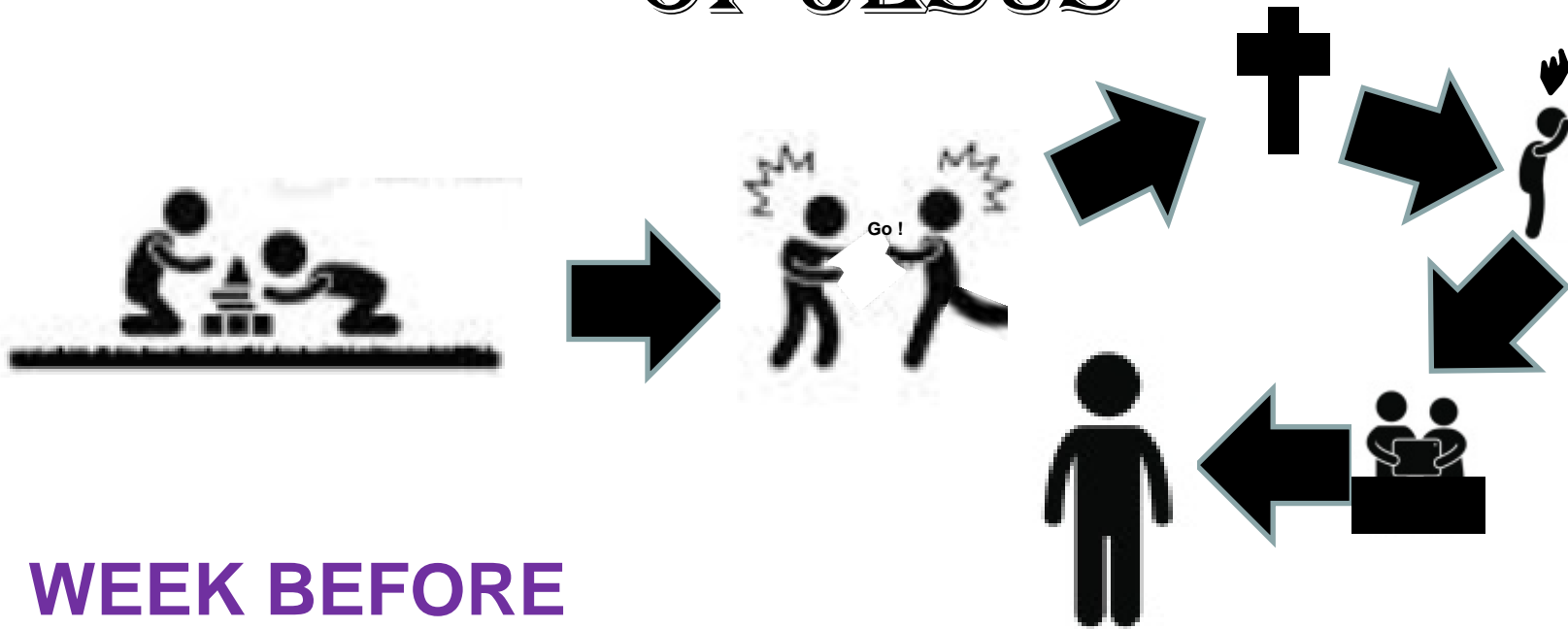
THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL

Around 1200-1050 B.C.
(according to the Book of Joshua)



LAST WEEK

JAMES A BROTHER OF JESUS



WEEK BEFORE

Mark 3	Matthew 13	Jesus says everyone is his brother and sister (in front of his family)
Matthew 13		James is the brother of Jesus
Mark 6		James was not pleased with Jesus – early ministry times
John 2		James watches as Jesus overturns tables and whips up a controversy
John 2		James and Jesus brothers try to trick him into getting into trouble
Acts 1		James is with the apostles when Holy Spirit comes
Acts 1		James is with apostles as new apostles are chosen
Galatians 1		~37 or 38 AD, Paul goes to see Peter in Jerusalem and James is there.
Acts 12		~AD44 James is not son of Zebedee, Peter escapes arrest and sends word to James
Acts 12		~51 AD James, “was an overseer of the Jerusalem church” – leader
Acts 21		~58 AD James and elders seen by Paul - leader

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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.

That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

JAMES

Wisdom



In western culture the wise bird is the owl and how silly is that.

The owl has a tiny brain. It's the eyes that make it seem wise.

Big eyes impress people.

JAMES

Wisdom



This is not wisdom, but gut feel interpreted as wisdom.

We like babies with big eyes and owls
have big eyes as well.

The people in the movie business know
this as well. That's why E.T. had such big
eyes.

We naturally like bigger eyes.

Holy Spirit provides real WISDOM to us!



Real wisdom is sensible choices in daily life.

It's something we gain from living and following
God's advice.

It is not easily obtained and really is the focus of
making choices and learning among many choices
which is the correct outcome.

Holy Spirit provides real WISDOM to us!



This is why as Christians we have an easier path to wisdom.

Let's assume there is a supreme God of the universe who knows everything. That means he knows all the right paths to decisions and why they should be chosen.

Then, this God may be interested in letting the little created beings know the right decisions, or not, right?

Assuming God would want to communicate the best directions, wouldn't it be up to the little created beings to follow them or not?

If they decided to ignore God's wisdom, who is to blame? Them or God?

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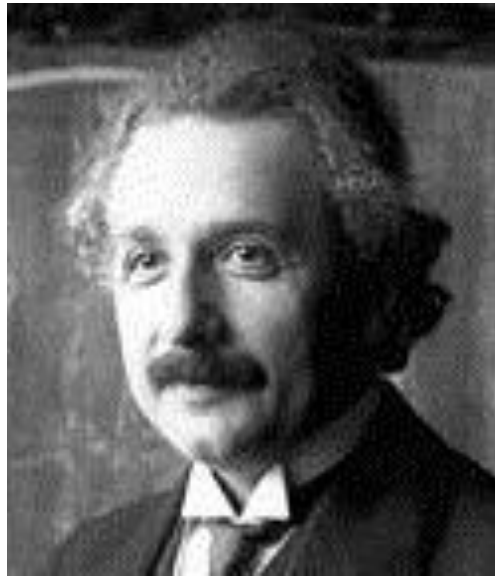
God gives out wisdom generously. It doesn't depend on our IQ or the size of our eyes.

It depends on believing Jesus is the son of God and following his advice, in living his way, in enjoying his spiritual gifts for our lives.

How do WE ask God for WISDOM?

When did you LAST ask God for wisdom?

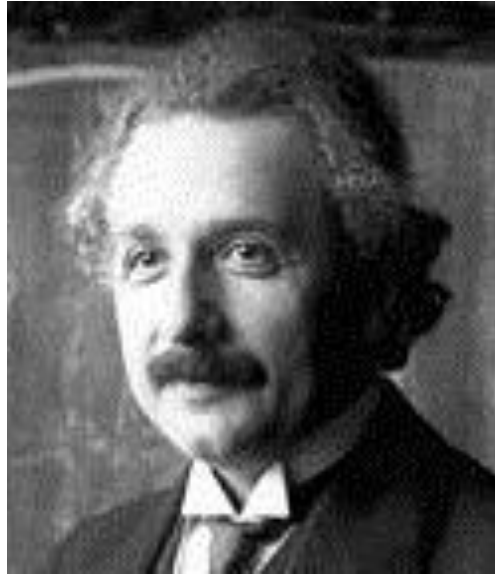
Who's this?



**“Wisdom is not a
product of schooling
but of the lifelong
attempt to acquire it”
~ *Albert Einstein***

How long does he think it takes to get wise?

Albert says...



Wisdom is not gained by schooling.

Many of us think lots of school or knowing smart people we make us wiser.

Albert says that's not how you get it!

wis·dom (w z d m)

n.

1. The ability to discern or judge what is true, right, or lasting; insight.
2. Common sense; good judgment: *"It is a characteristic of wisdom not to do desperate things" (Henry David Thoreau).*
3.
 - a. The sum of learning through the ages; knowledge: *"In those homely sayings was couched the collective wisdom of generations" (Maya Angelou).*
 - b. Wise teachings of the ancient sages.
4. A wise outlook, plan, or course of action.
5. **Wisdom Bible** Wisdom of Solomon.

The bible says this:

Proverbs 1:5-7 (NIV)

*How can fear of the
LORD be the beginning
of wisdom?*

let the wise listen and add to their learning,
and let the discerning get guidance—
for understanding proverbs and parables,
the sayings and riddles of the wise.

**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
knowledge,**

but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

(Note that a fool in this context refers to a morally deficient person.)

God is before all things, created all things and
sustains all things. **Respect for God is the start
of wisdom.**

**Fear grows from respect and
understanding consequences,
doesn't it?**

**We need to respect God and
understand the consequences of
mocking the God of the universe.**

So where do we go from there?

Well God once asked a man who was
an ancient King something. Here is
what was said:

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the
night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you
want me to give you." 1 Ki 3:5

Solomon wanted wisdom, a discerning heart.



God says : I will do what you have asked.
I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

So here is the ultimate wise man!

The reason I point this out is **he had a book of the bible written about how to gain wisdom**. It is **proverbs!**

How many days CAN you get in a month?

There are 31 chapters in PROVERBS and that is interesting because there is a maximum of 31 days in a month

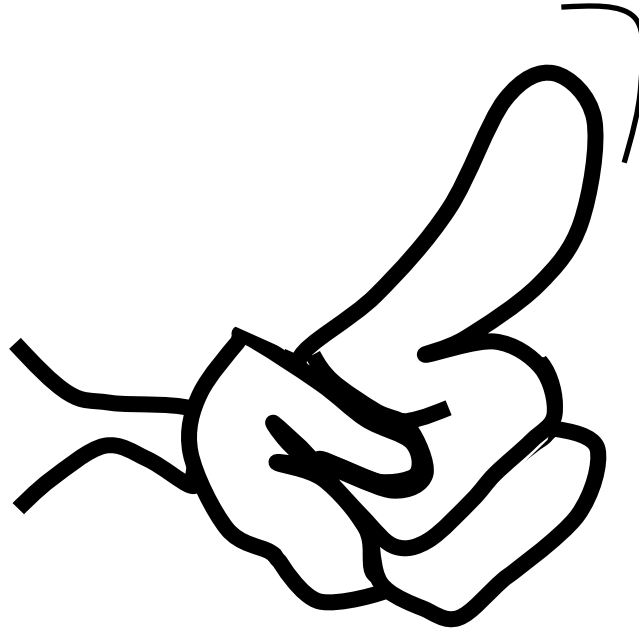


So, if we want to get wisdom,
perhaps **reading one chapter a
day, and repeating it for a year**
would mean we read these deep
words twelve times.

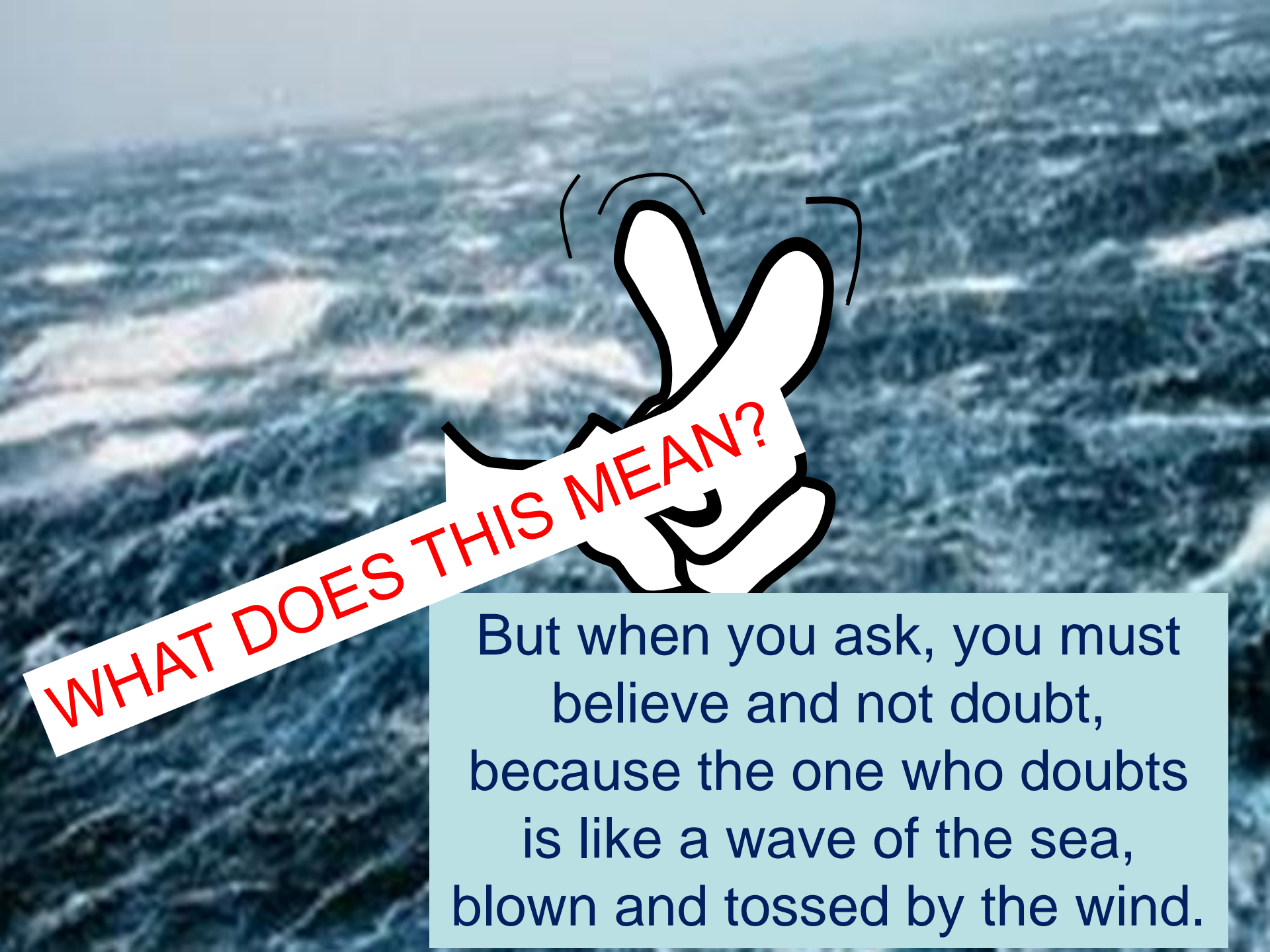
**During that time we will live life
and be able to apply them!**

**WE can pray to God each time we need to
do things and ask his advice... and the
words of proverbs will guide our thoughts!**

Then, **our life experience and God's word
will work together to increase our wisdom**
(provided we have started out fearing God).



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WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

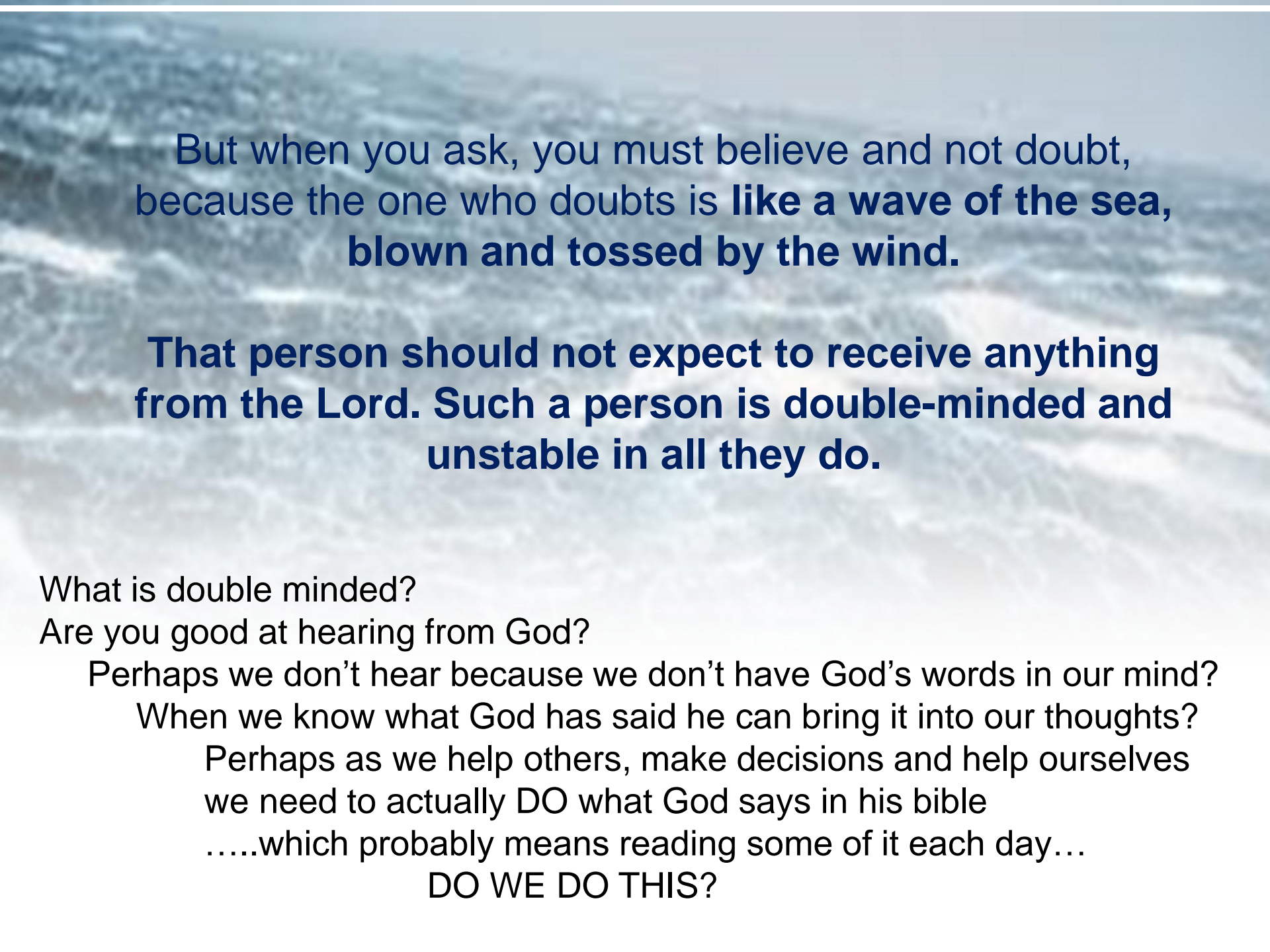
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unstable in all they do.**

What is double minded?

Are you good at hearing from God?

Perhaps we don't hear because we don't have God's words in our mind?

When we know what God has said he can bring it into our thoughts?

Perhaps as we help others, make decisions and help ourselves
we need to actually DO what God says in his bible

.....which probably means reading some of it each day...

DO WE DO THIS?