

GROWTH GUIDE

For you. Your family. Your group.

THE BOOK OF JAMES
REMEMBER GOD | JAMES 4:15-5:6
FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 6, 2022

SERMON OUTLINE

Your tomorrow:

1. Recognize the uncertainty of life. James 4:13-14
2. Remember the sovereignty of God. James 4:15
3. Guard against arrogance and walk in humility. James 4:16-17

Your riches:

4. Recognize the dangers of wealth. James 5:1-6
5. Remember the ownership of God. James 5:4
6. Guard against greed and walk in generosity. James 5:1-6

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Looking back at the passage and your notes, is there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Check for understanding: Knowing v13-14 and the uncertainty of life, what's the value in planning? What's the main thrust of the end of James 4 if it's not about making sure we always say "if the Lord wills"?
3. What specific dangers or temptations do wealth and material possessions bring? Consider 1 Tim 6:10, Matt 19:23, and Proverbs 30:7-9 as you answer.
4. How should this idea that "God is the owner and I am a steward" change how we think about or do with our possessions?
5. Are there places you waste time or are distracted by something that you don't actually enjoy very much and you know doesn't add value? For example, doom scrolling. If so, why do you do it then? What could you do instead in those pockets of time that would be more productive or joyful?

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

1. How often are you repenting of, meditating on, guarding against, etc. sin of omission in your life? Share a sin of omission you've wrestled with in your life that would be helpful to get out in the light or bring attention to in the group.
2. Encourage the group with a way God is working on your heart to use your wealth differently than you have been before Sunday. If you can't come up with anything, try to think what a step of growth might look like in the area of Stewardship for you.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Praise God that He does know tomorrow with certainty, and for his abundant provision of wealth for us.
2. Pray that we would remember God's sovereignty as we face hard things, as we plan, etc.
3. Ask God to help us be faithful stewards (1 Cor 4:1-2) of what he's given to us, and to look for opportunities to share with those less fortunate.