

Life Group Curriculum

SHARE AN EXPERIENCE:

Share with the group a time in your life when you made some really big plans for you life and things didn't work out at all like you planned. What about an important event like a vacation, partydid they all go off without a hitch?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Faith in action is a common theme of James. Faith in all areas of our life like submitting to God so that we resist the devil, and faith in God's power of judgement versus our ability to cast judgment in criticism. But what about master planning your life? Do you have faith to trust God's way, God's will over your own? Or is your confidence in your own strengths, your own plans and your 401k?

Answer as many questions as time allows:

1. Do you remember your childhood? What it was like to be a kid? Take a minute and think about the dreams and goals you had as a kid growing up. What did you want to be when you grew up? Did you have plans that would get you to that goal or what it would be like when you got there? Compare those dreams now against your reality. Did you achieve the dreams and goals you set out for as a kid? If so, is it what you hoped it would be? Or, if not, why? What derailed you? Is it too late, and/or are you happy with where you are instead of the childhood dream?

2. Why do you think James gives Christians this warning about making plans and organizing their lives? Some Bible translations give this section of James a subtitle of "Warning about Self-Confidence". How is planning ahead for the future "self-confidence" and why is this bad? What other word or words can self-confidence be synonymous with? If self-confidence is potentially dangerous, then who or where should our confidence be placed and how?

Supporting Scripture: James 4:13-14; Job 7:7,16; Psalm 78:39, 89:47, 102:3; 1 Peter 1:24; Isaiah 40:6-8

MEMORY VERSE: Proverb 27:1 – "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth."

Prayer:

- Pray for an expedited and complete halt to the spread of COVID-19. That the resources for medical facilities will catch up to the demand in abundance and that people who are afflicted will be miraculously healed and that GOD will receive all the Glory!
- Pray that the mighty POWER of JESUS becomes a bigger headline that politicians and COVID-19.
- Pray for salvations to happen in the midst and as a result of these times that we are living in. Pray that the Kingdom of God is advanced here and now on Earth.
- Pray for the Church! Pray not only for Radiant Church but for the church as a whole. The Body of Christ! That there would be unity and strength. That We the Church will bring hope and peace to our families, workplaces and communities. That God will use us to serve His people.
- Pray for opportunities to draw closer to God during this time. Spend more time in The Word this week and in prayer.
- Pray for those who are struggling with things other than COVID-19 (marriage issues, children, addiction, grief, illness), for we know that life continues to happen and the enemy will continue to use as many tactics as he can to separate us from the love of God!
- Let's not forget to pray for each other! Reach out to others this week. Facetime someone, Skype a friend, ZOOM, Facebook Video, etc. If you're not sure how to do these things, please let us know so we can help you figure it out.

