

Applying It In My LifeGroup time - 15 minutes

1. Think of a time when you were critical of someone because of selfish motivations. How did your wrong motivation corrupt your ability to speak into their life?

2. If you confront someone in sin or error and he says, "You're being judgmental," how would you respond?

3. Ponder your typical day. How much does God and His will figure into your plans? What about when you are making larger plans?

4. What are some things that you know are clearly the will of God?
Read: Matthew 6:33; Ephesians 5:17-21; 1 Thess 4:3-8; 1 Peter 2:13-15; 3:17

ACTIVE FAITH ACTION STEP | WEEK 08
 Write into your calendar for this week some specific actions that line up with God's clearly revealed will.

Prayer TimeGroup time - 15 minutes

Take time to repent of your false judgment and presumptuous planning. Ask God to help you give up the throne that you have no place being on. Thank God that. Thank God that He is the true judge of hearts and the He is the sovereign king in charge of the future.

Giving Up the Throne
James 4:11-17

What are two ways that we play God?

1. We Presume to Know the _____ *James 4:11-12*

2. We Presume to Know the _____ *James 4:13-17*

3 Ways to Strike Out Your Future:

1. Plan your future _____
2. Assume you'll _____
3. Procrastinate doing the _____ and _____

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of March 12, 2017

Getting StartedGroup time - 20 minutes

1. Describe one good and one bad experience with “constructive criticism.” Can pointing out error be constructive?

2. What can a schedule or calendar reveal about someone’s spiritual maturity?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

Getting Into God’s WordGroup time - 40 minutes

Read James 4:11-12

1. According to James, what does it mean to “speak evil” against a fellow believer? What sort of judgment is James talking about?

THINK ABOUT IT: Does James condemn all types of judgment? What sorts of judgments does James himself make in his letter? **Read also James 5:19-20**

2. Reread James 2:8. How do you deny the “royal law” when you speak evil against a brother or sister in Christ? What are you saying about the law with your actions when you deliberately disobey it?

Read James 4:13-17

3. Who is James speaking to in these verses? What does their priority appear to be?

4. In verse 14, how does James characterize our lives? Why is this significant?

5. How should Christians think about the future? Is James saying that planning for the future is wrong? If not, what then is wrong?

6. How does a concern for the will of God demonstrate our belief in His sovereignty? **Read also: Isaiah 46:9-10**

Read Luke 12:13-21

7. What does this parable teach us about priorities and the certainties in life?