

Sermon: What Is Your Life?
Series: James: Real Wisdom Real Faith.

Scripture: James 4:13-17.
Date: March 13, 2022

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) Can you think of example of something you planned to do but it never came through?
- b) Do you see yourself as in control of your life? What are some areas of your life that you are currently trying to control? (If time read Luke 12:13-21 – are you like the rich fool?)
- c) Have you ever wrestled with your own mortality (v14)? Do you know what will happen to you when you die?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) James says “If the Lord wills...” How does it comfort you to know that God is in control (sovereign) and that he has a will for your life? How does God’s sovereignty actually free us up to love and serve?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) James says that “such boasting” – boating in our plans- is evil. Read Galatians 6:14. What should we boast in instead? What might this look like on a practical level?

Read Ephesians 1:9-10. What is God’s will for everything (including you)?

APPLICATION

- a) How can we make plans and still honor God? What are you currently planning? How can you bring God’s will into your specific plan (remember what God’s will is – the exaltation of Christ and your own Christ-likeness)?
- b) Read verse 17. Is there something that you know God wants you to do but you have been avoiding? What commitment might you make this week?

FIGHTER VERSES: James 4:7-10.

PRAYER

- Praise God for being in control of all things.
- Confess ways that you have boasted about your own plans.
- Thank Jesus for his cross which allows us to boldly face our mortality .
- Ask God to help you live within his will alone, rather than your own.