


CENTRAL
Weekend Recap - Discussion Guide
James: Living a Genuine Life - Week 11
October 20-23

Title: Now Listen (James 4:13-5:6)

Big Idea: Our lives are directed by our perspectives and priorities.

Optional Ice Breaker: Pastor Cal shared, “Humility attracts; pride repels.” Share a story when someone’s humility attracted you? Share a story when someone's pride repelled you?

Discuss:

1. Do you struggle with trying to control everything? How has this shown up in different relationships in your life?
2. God makes clear the danger and sin of control (see Scriptures below). Why do you think it’s so easy for us to take credit and desire control? What are ways to fight against this?
3. We tend to excuse or minimize the role of control and wealth in our lives. What are some common excuses we make for our perspectives and priorities?
4. What are the perspectives and priorities of our culture? How do they differ from the perspectives and priorities of the Bible and of God?

For Students: Pastor Cal shared that, “Sin is just not “doing the wrong thing”, it is also “not doing the right thing.” Christians have a reputation for being known for caring about who is “doing the wrong thing.” What do you think it means to do the right thing?

Challenge: Look at your spending this past week. Reflect on where it seems like your priorities are. Do they align to God’s values? How can you ensure that they do this coming week?

Scriptures:

- Matthew 6:19-21 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- James 4:6 God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.
- James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.
- Matthew 23:12 For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Prayer: Ask God to make clear to you this week not just what the “wrong things” are but also what the “right things” are. Ask God to give you the courage to act on the “right things” this week.

Next Week-Sneak Peek: Read James 5:7-12. What stands out to you? What do you think is the big idea of this passage?