

# JAMES

## BLUEPRINTS FOR A BETTER LIFE

### [!Warning!]

#### PURPOSE OF GROUP

**Grow:** Take next steps in our faith journey.

**Invite:** Make room for others to grow.

**Support:** Care and serve one another.

#### PRAY

#### CONNECT

- What was the dumbest purchase you've ever made?

#### READ JAMES 5:1-6

- What stuck out to you in the sermon/text this week?
- Read James 5:1-6 — How would you describe the tone of this passage? Who is James addressing in this section?
- Why do you think we have such a hard time admitting we are rich?
- Read Matthew 6:19–21 — What connections do you see here with James 5?
  - Why is it important to “lay up treasures in heaven”?
  - What does this look like in our lives?
- Four ways we wrongly use our money: **hoard, cheat, indulge, manipulate**
  - Which of these four stick out to you as a big problem in the our western culture?
  - Which of these four do you see in yourself the most?

#### Discussion Questions (break up into men and woman)

- God doesn't care how much you **make**.
  - Why are we influenced/impressed with people who have more money?
- God does care how you **get it**.
  - Does the way you get income bring glory to God? If so, how?
- God does care how you **use it**.
  - Enjoying our resources isn't a bad thing, but when do you know you've gone too far?
  - When does it become greed or indulgence?
- **Money** directs **cravings**. How we spend our money will give us a greater craving to build **OUR** kingdom or build **GOD'S** kingdom.
  - What are you directing your cravings toward?
  - What is currently fighting to be the most important thing you spend your money on?

#### PRAY

## SUGGESTED ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS

(Below are three sets of accountability questions. My suggestion would be to break up into men and women and do one set of accountability questions every meeting or just do the top 3 below...

### Top 3

- What has God been teaching/challenging you in this week through Scripture and prayer?
- When it comes to your relationships, what can we pray for you about?
- Are you holding on to anything you need to confess (*anger, lust, envy, anxiety, jealousy, bitterness*)?

<b>How's your relationship with God?</b>	<b>How's your relationships with others?</b>	<b>How's your heart?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How have you experienced God's love and goodness this week?</li> <li>• What has gotten in the way of your relationship with God this last week?</li> <li>• What has God been teaching/challenging you in this week through Scripture and prayer?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are you angry/bitter/resentful toward anyone? Anyone you need to apologize to or reconcile with?</li> <li>• What have you done to serve, encourage, and lead your family/friends closer to God?</li> <li>• Who are you actively trying to share the love of God with? (Inviting to church, serving them, reaching out) (pick a new person every month)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are you holding on to anything you need to confess? (<i>lust, lying, greed, anger, envy, pride, laziness, gluttony — I would use this question to talk about purity.</i>)</li> <li>• How has your anger/envy/anxiety/addiction shown up this week?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does that reveal what you're trusting in besides God?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>