

No-nonsense Christianity

James part 12- FACING THE FUTURE WITH GOD IN THE CENTRE

READ James 4: 13-17; Proverbs 27:1; Luke 12: 16-34; Proverbs 3:27-28

1. James was acting as a critical friend in warning the Jewish Christians about worldliness such as boasting. Why was this important for the Christians in Jerusalem?
2. In what ways can we be tempted to plan without God and why is this?
3. Share with your group member's, times from your life, when you have included God in your plans and the outcomes. Take time to encourage one another that God is good all the time, even though we don't always understand His ways.
4. We can make the mistake of presuming about tomorrow, forgetting that life is both unpredictable and brief. Share examples of how unexpected change has affected you along life's journey.
5. Read the parable in Luke 12:16-21 and discuss how this story helps us understand James' words in James 4.
6. Then read the next part of Luke 12:22-34 and discuss why Jesus told his disciples- Not to worry. This is not always easy, so how can we help one another?
7. Where do we find the security that we need in life presently?
8. Read Proverbs 3: 27-28. Share ideas on how we can serve other people in our community and church – take time to encourage one another.
9. The words of the song The Potters Hand help us to submit our lives to God. Fiona said that the clay hadn't set yet - pray for one another that you will deepen and mature in faith and feel secure in God's love.