
JAMES – Practical Christianity

How to Get a Handle On Life

Part 10

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, November 8, 2015*

James 4:13-17

Working Hard Doesn't Mean I Am Working Smart

Getting a Handle On Life Begins with 4 Confessions

I Lack Adequate Knowledge

“Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”— yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring...” **4:13-14a**

I Lack Adequate Power

What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.” **4:14b**

I Lack Adequate Submission

“Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.” **4:15-16**

I Lack a Relentless Pursuit of Obedience

“So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.” **4:17**

Has What I Have Been Ignoring
Been Defeating Me?

**To Get a Handle On Life I Have to Turn Over
the Outcome to God**

I Get a Handle On Life by...

1. Getting My Hands Off

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”

Proverbs 3:5–6, ESV

My Job Is to Hand the Ball Off

Trusting God is about...

Believing God Loves Me

Believing God Has the Power to Help Me

2. Giving My Worry Over

“do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” *Philippians 4:6, ESV*

To Control My Tendency to Worry I Need:

A God Focus ...

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” *Romans 12:2, ESV*

... To Go Beyond What I Want, Think or Feel

3. Getting My Life Right

Things I Need to Let Go of ...

Things I Need to Pick Up

“Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.” *Jeremiah 33:3, ESV*