

“Making Plans in Uncertain Times” - James 4:13-17

Real Faith: A Study of James

Discussion Questions

- **Ice Breaker: Have you purchased travel insurance before? Why or why not?**
- **Read James 4:13-17.**
 - What is the problem with the statement in verse 13? (Point to things in the passage that helps us to know what James says the problem is.)
 - How would you define arrogance or pride?
 - How is pride and control connected?
 - Give some examples of how a desire for control shows up in someone’s life.
 - What does verse 14 tell us about how much control we actually have?
 - How does that make you feel?
- **Read James 4:15.**
 - How is the statement in verse 15 different from verse 13?
 - What is James’s point? How are we supposed to make plans?
- **Read Jeremiah 10:12, Psalm 147:4-5, Daniel 4:34b-35.**
 - What do these passages teach us about God?
 - In light of these passages, how should we view ourselves?
 - How does a relationship with Jesus effect your view of God and yourself?
- **C.S. Lewis said,**
 - *“In God you come up against something which is in every respect immeasurably superior to yourself. Unless you know God as that—and, therefore, know yourself as nothing in comparison—you do not know God at all. As long as you are proud you cannot know God.”*
 - How does pride prevent someone from knowing God?
- **Application & Reflection**
 - Which of the gospel identities (citizen, family, missionary) does this message most intersect?
 - How does this passage challenge you?
 - What will you do in response? How can your group help?