

JAMES 4:13-5:6

HOW TO LIVE A LIFE YOU WON'T REGRET

COASTAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

THE BIG IDEA

**TOMORROW'S REJOICING OR
REGRET IS DETERMINED BY
TODAY'S DEVOTION.**

JAMES 4:13-5:6

HOW TO LIVE A LIFE YOU WON'T REGRET

01

**Hold Your Plans
Loosely**

JAMES 4:13-17

02

**Hold Your
Possessions
Lightly**

JAMES 5:1-3

03

**Hold People
Carefully**

JAMES 5:4-6

VERSES 4:13-17

HOLD YOUR PLANS LOOSELY

VERSE 4:13

ASK BEFORE YOU ACT

“Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.””

JAMES 4:13 · NASB 1995

Your plans should reflect God’s authority, not your independence.

- God is not opposed to your ambition; He is opposed to your autonomy.
- Ambition becomes idolatry when God’s will becomes optional.
- You can be successful in your plans and still be outside God’s purpose.

VERSE 4:14

HOLD TOMORROW HUMBLY

“Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.”

JAMES 4:14 • NASB 1995

Life's brevity and uncertainty remind us that we cannot secure our own future because God alone holds tomorrow.

- Life is too brief to live as though it belongs to you.
- Every day is an opportunity to fulfill God's purpose, not just pursue your own.
- Don't become so consumed with preparing for tomorrow that you neglect your responsibility today.

VERSES 4:15-17

PUT YOUR AMEN INTO ACTION

“Instead, you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that.” But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.”

JAMES 4:15-17 • NASB 1995

Knowing God’s will means nothing if you refuse to obey it.

- “If the Lord wills” must govern your decisions, not merely decorate your conversations.
- Every plan made apart from God’s authority assumes control you do not possess.
- Delayed obedience is disobedience disguised as good intentions.

VERSES 5:1-3

HOLD YOUR POSSESSIONS LIGHTLY

VERSE 5:1

TRUST THE PROVIDER, NOT THE PROVISION

“Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you.”

JAMES 5:1 • NASB 1995

Wealth becomes a trap when you trust the provision more than the Provider.

- Money can provide temporary comfort, but it cannot guarantee lasting security.
- Whatever or whoever you trust as your ultimate source of security becomes your functional savior.
- What you depend on apart from God will eventually disappoint you.

VERSES 5:2-3A

DON'T LIVE FOR WHAT'S DYING

“Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten. Your gold and your silver have rusted;”

JAMES 5:2-3A • NASB 1995

***Everything you spend your life
accumulating is already passing away.***

- Everything you own has an expiration date.
- The more you live for possessions, the more your possessions control how you live.
- What you spend your life acquiring will eventually be left behind.

VERSE 5:3B

MONEY TALKS

“and their rust will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. It is in the last days that you have stored up your treasure!”

JAMES 5:3B • NASB 1995

Vanity will never vindicate you.

- What you accumulate for yourself cannot justify you before God.
- How you steward what God entrusts to you will testify to whom you truly serve.
- What you accumulate on earth means nothing if you neglect what matters in eternity.

VERSES 5 : 4 - 6

HOLD PEOPLE CAREFULLY

VERSE 5:4

DON'T BUILD ON BROKEN PROMISES

“Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, and which has been withheld by you, cries out against you; and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.”

JAMES 5:4 · NASB 1995

You cannot claim to honor God while dishonoring the people He created.

- Integrity is not just about what you say; it's about how you treat people.
- The cries you choose to ignore are heard by the God you claim to serve.
- You cannot mistreat people and expect God to overlook it.

VERSE 5:5

DON'T LET COMFORT NUMB YOUR COMPASSION

*“You have lived luxuriously on the earth
and led a life of wanton pleasure; you
have fattened your hearts in a day of
slaughter.”*

JAMES 5:5 • NASB 1995

***Comfort becomes corruption when
your satisfaction matters more than
someone else's suffering.***

- God's blessings were never intended to make you blind to another person's burdens.
- A life invested in self-indulgence pays a dividend of death.
- Prosperity without compassion exposes the poverty of the heart.

VERSE 5:6

PROTECT THE POWERLESS

*“You have condemned and put to death
the righteous man; he does not resist you.”*

JAMES 5:6 • NASB 1995

***How you use your influence reveals
whom you truly serve.***

- Your character is revealed by how you treat people who have nothing to offer you.
- God never gave you influence to exploit people, but to serve them.
- You may have the power to mistreat others, but you will never escape God’s authority.