

James: Doing > Hearing
Playing God
James 4:11-17

1. Stop playing God with your _____ . (vv. 11-12)

The kind of judging James condemns _____ three relationships that form the context of our lives:

- With _____
- With _____
- With _____

The posture from which we evaluate good and bad behavior must be _____ and honest _____.

If we fail to face our own sin, and instead hide behind a mask of self-righteous pride toward others, then, in our hypocrisy, we will not show _____, nor will we be a _____. Instead, we will _____ with the intent to _____.

It's not that we should never speak into another person's life, it's that it must never be done with a _____ or _____ attitude that seeks to slander rather than to _____.

James 5:20 *Remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.*

Galatians 6:1 *Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.*

2. Stop playing God with your _____. (vv. 13-17)

The kind of planning James condemns involves three _____ that quash God's grace in our lives.

- _____ without God

Proverbs 16:9 *In his heart a man plans his course, but Yahweh determines his steps.*

- _____ about tomorrow

Life is _____.

Life is _____. (cp. **Job 9:25, 14:1, Ps 39:5**)

Isaiah 56:12 *"Come," each one cries, "let me get wine! Let us drink our fill of beer! And tomorrow will be like today, or even far better."*

Proverbs 27:1 *Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth.*

Matthew 6:34 *Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

Psalms 35:15 *Lord, my days are in your hands.*

- _____ with obedience

Proverbs 3:27-28 *Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow"-- when you now have it with you.*

We constantly worry about _____, how long we are going to live. God is concerned about _____, what we do with the time we've got.

Luke 12:16ff

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1. Stop playing God with your relationships. (vv. 11-12)

The kind of judging James condemns contradicts three relationships that form the context of our lives:

- With People
- With God's Law of Love
- With God

The posture from which we evaluate good and bad behavior must be humility and honest self-evaluation.

If we fail to face our own sin, and instead hide behind a mask of self-righteous pride toward others, then, in our hypocrisy, we will not show mercy, nor will we be a peace-maker. Instead, we will judge with the intent to slander.

It's not that we should never speak into another person's life, it's that it must never be done with a superior or condemning attitude that seeks to slander rather than to restore.

James 5:20 *Remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.*

Galatians 6:1 *Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.*

2. Stop playing God with your life. (vv. 13-17)

The kind of planning James condemns involves three prideful acts that quash God's grace in our lives.

- Planning without God

Proverbs 16:9 *In his heart a man plans his course, but Yahweh determines his steps.*

- Presuming about tomorrow

Life is unpredictable.

Life is brief. (cp. **Job 9:25, 14:1, Ps 39:5**)

Isaiah 56:12 *"Come," each one cries, "let me get wine! Let us drink our fill of beer! And tomorrow will be like today, or even far better."*

Proverbs 27:1 *Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth.*

Matthew 6:34 *Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

Psalms 35:15 *Lord, my days are in your hands.*

- Procrastinating with obedience

Proverbs 3:27-28 *Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow"-- when you now have it with you.*

We constantly worry about duration, how long we are going to live. God is concerned about donation, what we do with the time we've got.

Luke 12:16ff