

Are You Out of Place? / James 4:11-12
Andrew Kalvelage / Sunday, July 19th

Passage Summary

James addresses the seriousness of speaking evil about a brother or sister in Christ, which is an act that not only judges a fellow Christian, but also judges the law, and ultimately judges God.

Action Steps

1. Humbly repent.
2. Seek to love well.
3. Speak charitably.

Scripture Meditation

James 4:11

Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you're not a doer of the law but a judge.

Message Takeaway

1. How did you hear God speaking to you?
2. In what ways were you strengthened?
3. Where do you need help?
4. What can you apply today?

Going Deeper in Application

1. How careful are you when speaking about others and how judgmental can you be?
2. What is a situation that you've recently experienced where you knew the royal law, but deliberately decided not to obey it? By choosing to violate the greatest commandment, what are you implicitly saying about the law and to God?
3. How we treat others reflects our view of who God is. What does this truth reveal about you?

Further Study (Read James 4:11-12)

1. What is the reason James gives for not speaking evil against each other? (Read Matthew 7:1-5)
2. How is speaking evil against a fellow Christian the same as judging him or her?
3. To what does James refer by "the law"? (Read James 2:8 and Matthew 22:34-40)
4. What is the standard and what is the result of brotherly love? (Read John 13:34-35)
5. How permissible is it to speak against a fellow believer if it's the truth? (Read 1 Peter 1:22-2:1)
6. How do verses 11-12 fit into the broader context of the previous teaching in chapter 4 on humility and pride?
7. How is speaking evil against a fellow believer also speaking evil against the law and ultimately against God?
8. Why is God uniquely qualified to judge and we are not?