

Week Eight

Today and Tomorrow

James



! "\$% "&' () : Pray before people arrive. Ask for the leading of the Holy Spirit in your conversation. Read the scripture for today, and study Stulac pg. 156-168. Circle or highlight the discussion prompts from this study guide that seem to fit your group best.

Beginning the group study: Pray for the ability to be fully present right here right now

Read aloud from James 4:13 – 5:6

! What things stand out to you in the text from James

From Stulac (pg. 156-157; 162), printed here:

Getting started:

- ! What's your relationship with your calendar like? Or a better question may be what is God's relationship with your calendar? Are you living into God's call in the here and now, or are you too focused on future plans?
- ! If we are living respectable lives, it might be tempting to believe that God's sovereignty applies less when it comes to our wealth. ex: I give of my time and energy, I don't have to give my money too, do I? Talk about how you struggle with understanding or believing that God is completely sovereign in all of life, even wealth.

We make a lot of plans for the future, and that's not a bad thing. But it's possible that our plans make bold statements about what we believe our future to be, and we live for those moments instead of living right now for God.

- ! Have you ever considered the possibility that a over busy schedule is a form of arrogance? Consider Jesus' words in Matthew.
- ! Having long vision, hopes, and dreams for the future, these are all good things. But we also need to consider what God is calling us to today, right now. Talk about what God might be calling you to do today, in the little things.
 - ! Encourage someone, be a good neighbor, call an old friend, make apologies, etc.

We make a lot of plans for our wealth, too. Does protecting your wealth end up hurting other people? Finding the best price isn't a bad thing, but considering only the price and not the labor practices of some companies may end up passively contributing to situations of injustice.