

Journey CHURCH

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Leader Guide Session 9

Leader notes

All of our tomorrows can be thwarted by outside factors. We do not know what tomorrow holds.

As created beings, we lack knowledge, and we lack power to do anything about that.

God is all-knowing, He is all-powerful, and He is everywhere at once.

Any ground for boasting or swagger or self-exaltation is foolish.

THREE WAYS TO PURSUE HUMILITY

1. Understand and acknowledge our weaknesses.
2. Stay curious.
3. Learn to acknowledge others.

Not everyone is everything. Every one of us has specific strengths and specific weaknesses.

God puts us together for the building up of this body for the glory of His name.

Curiosity is a playful acknowledgment that you don't know something.

Since human plans and even our own existence in this world are somewhat insignificant and we quickly disappear, we ought to take thought for larger matters-faith and submission to the will of God.

Faith isn't a privatized, pulled-out, separated-out idea over here but is integrated into everything we do and all that we consider and all that we set our minds and hearts to.

This is a relentless pursuit of obedience concerning the revealed ethical will of God.

James is asking, "Are you doing the right things that you know you should be doing?"

Discussion

- 1) In what ways does the worldly, false wisdom of our culture promote arrogance?
- 2) How is arrogance blatantly and openly encouraged today?
- 3) How are arrogance and self-centeredness more subtly encouraged?
- 4) Read James 4:13-16. Is it arrogant to make plans? Is it worldly to make a profit?
- 5) What was James saying in these verses?
- 6) What was James's point in comparing us to a mist or a vapor?
- 7) Why is this truth an important reality to keep in mind?
- 8) In building on the theme of true, godly wisdom, what else do we need to keep in mind about who we are in relation to who God is?
- 9) In what way is humility ultimately a posture of faith?
- 10) Matt identified three ways to pursue humility, as well as ways to test whether we're walking in arrogance.
 - A) We must understand and acknowledge our weaknesses.
 - Why is admitting weakness a liberating truth?
 - Why is acknowledging humility vital to the unity of the church?

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- Are you more prone not to recognize your own weakness or to feel that God can't use you because of your weaknesses? Why are both of these extremes really two sides of the same coin of arrogance?

B) We must stay curious.

- Matt said, "Curiosity is a playful acknowledgment that you don't know something." Why do most people lack enough humility to admit they don't know something?

C) We must learn to acknowledge others.

- In what way is acknowledging others the counterpart to admitting our own weakness?
- How do always having an opinion and always being a hero damage relationships?
- In what ways are arrogance and pride at the heart of all sin?
- How would you explain the nature of sin in one sentence or phrase?

11) Read James 4:17. How does this verse expand our understanding of sin?

- How does the cross give hope to those of us who haven't done the right thing?
- How does that hope lead us to humility?
- What remaining questions or comments do you have about the video teaching or discussion?
- What was challenging, convicting, encouraging, or timely for your current circumstances?

Close in prayer.