

# JAMES

*Wisdom for the Everyday Stuff of Life*

# DNA GUIDE

## WEEK 10: WISDOM FOR TOMORROW

### DISCOVER (PRE-WORK)

Before and while you read these passages ask the Spirit of God to illuminate your heart and mind and bring conviction and clarity of his truth for your life. Take some time during your own personal study to read through these four key questions:

1. Who is God (what does this passage tell me about God's character)?
2. What Has God Done (how do I see God's character in action here)?
3. Who Am I (how does God's character and action shape how I see myself)?
4. What Do I Do (if I believe 1-3 how would I respond and relate to others)?

**Scripture: James 4:13-17**

*QUESTION: What did you DISCOVER during your study?*

### NURTURE

Confess out loud to one another areas of personal struggle or unbelief that the Spirit revealed during your personal study.

In light of this week's sermon, consider these questions together:

1. Talk together about how you think about and plan for the future. Do you do so presumptuously or does it bring you anxiety?
2. Which of your human limitations do you despise the most or feel most often?
3. What is your life? How do you think about the value, meaning and purpose of your life? What defines you in a day to day sense?

4. Consider Augustine's phrase "Incurvatus in se" (curved in on oneself), how do you see sin curving you in on yourself?
5. In what sense is your human limitedness "good news"?

During this time, let each person share how or where they need to repent and believe the truth of God revealed to them in Jesus. You may need to guide each other to what is true of God and ourselves in light of what Jesus has done. For instance, someone may be experiencing a great deal of dryness or emptiness in their relationship with God. They may need to be reminded that God wants to satisfy the deep thirst of their soul with the living water that Jesus has to offer. The call to repent may look like turning away (repent) from empty sources or corrupt sources that they have been depending up and turning to Jesus (believe) to be the unending supply of soul water. Use this time for confessing out loud the wrong sources and calling out in prayer for God the Father to pour His love into their hearts through his Spirit as they turn to Jesus for help.

*QUESTION: How will you REPENT and BELIEVE the gospel?*

## **ACT**

In light of your time together, what steps will you take to act on your new discoveries and affirmed beliefs?

Consider these questions:

1. How will you think about the future differently in light of this message?
2. What would it look like for you to lean into your particular human limitations?
3. In light of the gospel and its description of the value, meaning and purpose of your life, how might you order your life differently?
4. What is the solution for the "curvedness" of your life as a result of sin? How will you walk in that solution this week?
5. How would you articulate a Christian vision for embracing your humanity to a non-Christian co-worker or neighbor?

*QUESTION: What will you DO and who will you TELL about what God has done?*