

JAMES

Wisdom for the Everyday Stuff of Life

DNA GUIDE

WEEK 4: WISDOM FOR LIVING OUT YOUR FAITH

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 1:19-27

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. In light of your reading, what questions come to mind and what key issues are being surfaced that you need to process with your DNA group?
2. Would you describe yourself as slow to speak or quick to speak? Slow to become angry or quick to become angry? Why do you believe that is true?

3. In what areas of your life do you need to receive with meekness (humble desperation) the already-implanted word of God (gospel in you)?
4. If you do what you believe. What presently do your behaviors reveal about what you believe about Who God is and What He has done (i.e. withholding forgiveness may reveal you believe God has refrained from forgiving you)?

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, may be struggling to love someone difficult in their life. They may need to be reminded that God loved them while they were an enemy and they can invite the Spirit of God to not only remind them of God's love but pour it out into their life for others. In this case, the call to repent looks like turning away (repent) from the view that God only loves the lovable and turning to Jesus (believe) to see and receive God's love for the unlovable. 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. In what relationship or situation do you want to become slow to speak, quick to listen and slow to become angry?
2. What aspect of the gospel do you need to humbly receive today?
3. What aspect of the gospel do you need to more intently look at so as to walk away changed?
4. When you consider the doing of acceptable "religion" (doing good news work) which one do you most need God to change you in: a) Controlling your Tongue; b) Caring for the helpless; c) Personal purity and holiness? Take time to pray for each other in the area of most need.

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