



## Small Group Discussion

"You Asked For It"

How Can I know God's Will for My Life

Preached October 14, 2018

Big Idea: "God is specific on areas that we want freedom, and gives freedom in areas that we want specificity."

*Begin the discussion time by asking the group for a summary of the message. What stood out? What confused them? What did they disagree with?*

*When have you made a big decision and regretted it? Which of the four guides did you ignore, or what would you have done differently?*

- Know God's Word
- Pray
- Seek Wise Counsel
- Keep a Proper Perspective

*Is there anything that you would add to this list? Is there anything else you do when trying to make a big decision that is not mentioned above?*

*Read James 4:13-17: <sup>13</sup> Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." <sup>14</sup> Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup> Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." <sup>16</sup> As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup> If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them.*

*What do you think the point of these verses is?<sup>1</sup>*

*Are you contemplating a big decision now? Is there something that you are going through or wrestling with? What steps have you done thus far and where are you leaning and why?*

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<sup>1</sup> James' goal here is to get us to think more humbly about our lives and to realize that we do not control as much as we think. God is in control...He is the ultimate authority. These verses do not challenge us to find God's perfect will for our lives, but to acknowledge that nothing happens without God's knowledge. What key phrases in the verses support this interpretation?