November 5 & 8, 2026
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James | Faith That Works – Week 8
“Maximizing Your Mist”

James 4:13-17 (NIV)
*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.” **14** 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. **15** Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.” **16** As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. **17** If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn’t do it, it is sin for them.*

1. **Change how you plan.**

James 4:13 (NIV)
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.”

James 4:15 (NIV)
Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.”

- Planning is not the problem, but presumption is.
- Planning is wise but precluding God is not.
- Pride says, "I've got this." Humility says, "God's got me."

Proverbs 16:3 (NIV)
Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans.

- Making the “Most of your Mist” means committing your calendar to the Lord.

2. **Change how you view life.**

James 4:14b (NIV)
What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

Brevity of life:
- Your life is fleeting.
- Your life is fragile.
- Your life is forgetful.

- The greatest danger isn't that life is short, it's living as though it isn't.

- Making the most of your "mist" means recognizing the brevity of life.

3. **Change your "whens" to "nows."**

James 4:17 (NIV)
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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."

Luke 12:16-20 (NIV)
And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ***17*** *He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'*
18 *"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain.* ***19*** *And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'"*
20 *"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'*

- Planning is not the problem, but presumption is.