Be Generous
Small Group Questions
James 5:1-6
November 9

Community

- What was the first job, outside the home, for which you were paid?

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

- What is one thing you would do differently this week as a result of this message?

Core: Read James 5:1-6

1. Take a quick survey of James, where else does he mention the rich (1:9-11 and 2:1-7)? What is James' general attitude toward the rich? Are these rich people believers or nonbelievers in these passages?

2. Compare James 5:1-6 to those previous mentions of wealthy people in the book of James, does his tone change in chapter five? In what way?

3. Lance talked about misplaced treasure, what is the danger of misplaced treasure according to James 5:1-3? Is it wrong to save, invest or plan for the future? Why? Why not?

4. Is this warning for all rich people, of all time, or just for the people in James' time or maybe just for certain rich people?

5. In view of the accusations of this text, what responsibilities seem to come with wealth?[1]

6. Read Proverbes 11:28. What does it mean to “trust in riches” and whi is this so tempting? Why is trust in riches dangerous?[2]

7. Not many of us are guilty of witholding someone’s wages, but are there resources you might be holding onto that you could give away?

8. If James is only condemning wealth by unjust gains, how can you achieve a balance in your life of saving for the future and being generous with those around you?

9. How can we make sure that we don’t have our security misplaced?

10. Do you think these rich people James was warning in vs 6 were really guilty of murder? Why? Why not? How do we avoid the same sin?

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[1] David Jeremiah, *Turning Toward Integrity*, Victor Books, Canada, pg 218

[2] Jeremiah, *Turning Toward Integrity*, pg 218

Pray to Close