



MOVEMENT

Week 5

BREAKING THE ICE

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What is something people would say you are a huge fan of in your life?

What verse in James 4 stuck with you this week? What did it mean to you?

MAIN CONTENT

This week we heard from our good friend David Nasser. David gave us some context about what kind of person James the brother of Jesus was – someone who loved people enough to tell them the truth.

Truthful statements are helpful in our lives. They remind us of the important things we can forget in a moment. David shared a true statement he spoke to his children every day growing up, "Remember who you are and whose you are".

1. Is there a truth statement that has been a vital part of your life?

If we call ourselves followers of Jesus we need to remember whose we are. We belong to Him. Everything and every part of our lives belong to Jesus.

In this chapter of James, we find James speaking to the followers of Jesus who were merchants. He had three conclusions for the followers. The first one was that they were planning without God. They had stopped inviting God into everything going on in their lives. James was reminding them to continually go to God about everything.

2. What parts of your life have you kept off-limits to God?

Money, dating, parenting, our jobs, school, friendships ... God wants to be a part of all of these things. He wants to be a part of our plans. When we don't bring God into our plans we miss out on His wisdom, guidance and best for our lives.

3. How have you seen God's plans for you work out better than your own plans?

The second conclusion James had for the merchants was that they were presuming they're guaranteed tomorrow. We aren't guaranteed anything. Our life is a vapor. We don't know how long we will have. What we do with our time is important. We need to steward our moments, our every day well, and live with urgency as Kingdom workers.

4. Who is the most influential person you know who stewards their life in this way well? What can you learn from them?

The last conclusion James had for the people was that they were playing dumb. They knew what to do but they were choosing not to do it. We can have a tendency to pretend we didn't hear something so we aren't responsible to do the hard things. Again, we lose His wisdom when we play dumb and don't respond like He would want us to.

5. What areas of your life have you played dumb in so you don't have to do the hard things? What areas do you need to listen to God?

Our lives are short-lived. We show our priorities in life when we look at what we spend our time and money on. Even noble things can become idols in our lives. We have to ask God into all things we care about first to make sure He is in the center of everything.

6. What would the friendships and relationships in your life say you spend the most time on? Do these things need to be reprioritized based on what God wants for your life?

7. How do you want people to remember your life?

CLOSING PRAYER

God thank you for what you have been teaching us in the book of James. Show us the parts of our lives that we haven't allowed you in. Help us give those to you. Let us hear from you and know you intimately. Help us steward every moment of our life well. Amen.

ACTION STEP

+ Continue following along with the Movement podcast and reading plan at www.crosspoint.tv/movement

+ This week ask yourself, "What is my life?" Take notes on what God tells you about your life that may need some changes in it. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and direct you on the plans He has for your life.

+ For more information on how to steward your life well, check out the book "Life as a Vapor" by John Piper.