**James: More than Words**

*A study for Community Groups to use the week of September 28th*

To prepare for your group discussion each week**,** group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD’S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

**Week Eight: James 4:13-18**

**Overview**

Everyone talks about faith, but what does real faith actually look like?  In a world full of noise, opinions, and empty promises, the book of James cuts through the fluff with a bold message: faith isn’t just something you say, it’s something you live.  This series explores how belief in Jesus should shape everyday life, from how we speak, to how we suffer, how we treat others, and how we make decisions.  More Than Words is a practical walk through the book of James.  It’s a call to a faith that shows up, not just on Sundays, but in the moments that matter most.

**Passage: James 4:13-18.** “James gave an example of a boastful statement [v. 13], struck a condemnatory sentence on such boasting [v. 14], and offered a practical solution for boasting [vv. 15-17].” - *Constable Notes*

**Questions**

\*The questions below are designed to supplement the standard questions that we provide in our Group Discussion Guide; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week?* *What does this reveal about God? About People? About the Life He has planned for us?*

1. Think back over your life. When have you had plans that went wildly different than you had expected? How did you respond? What does our planning say about our desire for control?
2. James compares life to a mist. How could a "mist" perspective on your life impact your daily priorities and your approach to planning?
3. What’s the difference between wise, open-handed planning and close fisted, arrogant planning? What might be some ways you can tell that you are crossing the line from one to the other?
4. If someone were to look at your calendar and the things you are currently planning, what would they conclude are your priorities? What might you need to add or subtract to reflect the priorities of the Lord?