

James: More than Words

A study for Community Groups to use the week of October 5th

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 Seven: James 5:1-6

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 5:1-6. "The final practical problem James addressed involves money. He wrote these instructions to warn his readers of a danger, to inform them of the ramifications of the problem, and to exhort them to deal with the situation appropriately. This is his third reference to the rich and the poor (cf. 1:9-11; 2:1-12)." - *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. Would James say it is a sin to be rich? What's the difference between what James is condemning and having wealth?
2. When you think about finances and riches, what would your own spending habits suggest about your priorities?
3. James uses some incredibly strong language to warn the rich among them. What type of response should we have as we encounter such words? What emotions does this bring out in you?
4. What practical steps might you take this week to make sure your riches can be a river of blessing to be shared with others rather than just something to hoard for yourself?