

Bible Summary

James 4:11-17

James has his final say on the mouth. He warns against gossip and boasting about the future. James says it's a bad idea because the future is uncertain and your life is short. Instead we as believers should humbly say, "If God wills."

Scriptures – James 4:11-17; Psalm 31:15, 90:12, Isaiah 40:31

Bible Questions & Application

(These are meant to aid in facilitating conversation.

There is no obligation to run through **every** listed question.)

1. What stood out most from Sunday's message?
2. Slander can be like ice cream--delicious now, trouble later. How can you change your attitude toward slander so it's not tasty?
3. Jesus did not cast judgment on sinners even though He had every right. (John 8:7)
 - a. What is the problem when humans act as the judge?
 - b. How can we become more like Christ in these situations?
4. According to James, why shouldn't we boast? (verses 14-15)
5. Living according to God's will ("Deo volente") is a matter of the heart.
 - a. Why is it so easy to become anxious when we plan for the future, and how do we guard ourselves against this?
 - b. How can we become better at trusting/hoping/waiting upon the Lord? (Isaiah 40:31)
6. For you, what would it look like to find an "open space" to reflect and recalibrate?
7. What things are you thankful for in 2019? What would you love to see in your life in 2020?

This week, commit to reflecting on this past year with the following questions in order to "recalibrate" for 2020:

- What did I regret?
- If I died today, what would be left undone?
- What has God asked me to do that I haven't obeyed?
- What do I need to repent about?
- How are my relationships?
- What brings me joy/passion?

"Getting to know you" Questions

1. Since we last met, what are a couple things you're particularly thankful for? (Philippians 4:8)
2. Have you seen any victories?
3. What is a challenge you are facing right now?
4. What is one thing you are looking forward to?