



GCBC Sermon Application & Discussion Guide (for individuals, families, small groups, etc.)

What to do right after the service to help “the Word dwell more richly,” within us (Colossians 3:16):

1. Instead of rushing off after the service is over, or talking about the latest news, develop the habit of talking about the sermon with people after church. Start spiritual conversations by asking, “How did the Scripture challenge or speak to you today?” Or “what about God in the message encouraged you?”
2. Encourage someone by sharing things you learned about God from His Word during the sermon. Make note of how your thinking has changed. Don’t let biblical teaching be a one-time event that fades from memory as soon as it is over (James 1:22-25). Choose one or two particular applications to share

[Above from book *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church Member*]

For further Application, Meditation and Conversation on today’s text:

Date: 6/13/2021 Title and text: Oppression and the Question of our Times (James 1-5)

1. What stands out to you in James 5:4-6 in relation to injustice of our world? How does the end of v. 4 speak to those who are mistreated or oppressed and how might this encourage a struggling believer?
2. What can you do to be helping, instead of hoarding, or being a giver instead of being greedy? How can the Lord’s coming (v. 7) help us live more in light of eternity and not think of this world as our home?
3. How did this message help you think about what’s transpired in our world since June of 2020. Is there any way you think we can speak more carefully about problems in America and the solution?
4. James 1 talks about wisdom we need (v. 5), including wisdom in how we listen and speak (v. 19-20, see also 3:15-18 compares man’s wisdom and God’s). Discuss more how this could look toward our culture?
5. Where might the warnings of James 2 be applied to our culture? How does his quotation in v. 9 of Leviticus 19 help you apply it further as a way to truly love neighbor (19:9-10, 13-18, 35-36)?
6. What’s the crucial truth in James 3:9 that needs to be emphasized in our cultural conversations? Why? If we’re all in one “human race” (v. 7 NASB, see Acts 17:26) how does that change the issues and solution?
7. How can we apply the truths of James 4 in these conflicts or other conflicts we have:
 - a. The source and solution - v. 1-2
 - b. The danger in wanting friendship with worldly ways – v. 4
 - c. Grace for individual sin by repentance vs. institutional sin of others by reparation – v. 6-10
 - d. How we speak to and about those we may disagree with – v. 11-12 (pray Psalm 139:23-24)