



Discussion Guide: Wisdom for Making Plans

Passage: James 4:11-17

Summary: We all need to make plans for the future. Yet, so often our planning can become a way of trying to hold control over our lives; to protect and insulate ourselves from our fears. How we plan for the future can reveal who really sits on the throne of our lives. With practical wisdom, James helps us see how to make future plans and decisions with hearts that our surrendered to God.

Discussion Questions

1. What was the main point of this passage?
2. What is the Spirit drawing your attention to in the passage?
3. How do you sometimes place yourself in God's seat? Maybe through how you judge others? Or through how you plan for the future?
4. How do you see a desire for control showing up in your life?
5. Will you surrender to the One who is actually in control and trust that He is able to care for you? What is a next step God is inviting you to take in surrender?

Take some time to pray over Henri Noun's prayer on the next page:

Dear God,

I so much want to be in control.
I want to be the master of my own destiny.

Still I know that you are saying:
“Let me take you by the hand and lead you.
Accept my love and trust that where I will bring you,
the deepest desires of your heart will be fulfilled.”

Lord, open my hands to receive your gift of love.

Amen.