

A FAITH FOR FACING AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE

James: A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't - Part 20

23 Aug 2020

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"No one knows what will happen in the future and there is no one who can tell us."
- Ecclesiastes 8:7

"Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to a certain city and we will stay there a year. We will open up a business there and we will make a profit.' But you don't even know what will happen tomorrow! And your life is as brief and uncertain as the mist of a morning fog. It's here a little while, but then it disappears! So instead, what you ought to say is, 'IF it is the Lord's will, we will live long enough to do this or that.' Otherwise you are just boasting and bragging about yourself, and that kind of pride is wrong and evil. But remember, anytime you know the right and good thing to do, but you don't do it, then you sin."
- James 4:13-17

3 MISTAKES WE MAKE ABOUT THE FUTURE AND THE SOLUTION FOR EACH ONE**1. WE MAKE PLANS WITHOUT _____ GOD**

"Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow WE WILL go to a certain city and WE WILL stay there a year. WE WILL open up a business there and WE WILL make a profit.'"
- James 4:13

To have God's blessing, involve Him in my planning.

KEY 1: _____ as I plan my life

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not depend on your own understanding. In all your plans acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths."
- Proverbs 3:5-6

"If you want to know what God wants you to do, just ask him, and he will gladly tell you, for he is always ready to give a generous supply of wisdom to all who ask him."
- James 1:5 (LB)

David prayed: "I'll run the course you lay out for me if you'll just show me how."
- Psalm 119:32 (The Message)

2. WE _____ THAT WE'LL HAVE TOMORROW

"But you don't even know what will happen tomorrow! And your life is as brief and uncertain as the mist of a morning fog. It's here a little while, but then it disappears! So instead, what you ought to say is, 'IF it is the Lord's will, we will live to do this or that.' Otherwise you are just boasting and bragging about yourself, and that kind of pride is wrong and evil."
- James 4:14-16

KEY 2: Live one day at a time and make it _____

Jesus: "Don't worry about tomorrow because tomorrow will have its own worries. Each day has enough trouble of its own!"
- Matthew 6:34 (LB)

"Don't brashly brag about what you're going to do tomorrow because you don't know the first thing about tomorrow!"
- Proverbs 27:1 (The Message)

3. WE _____ DOING WHAT'S RIGHT AND GOOD RIGHT NOW

"But remember, anytime you know the right and good thing to do, but you don't do it, then you sin."
- James 4:17

HOMEWORK QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What is the next step of spiritual growth and obedience I need to take?
Sign up for a place to serve? (Your ministry)
2. What do I know God wants me to do, but I'm still putting off?
3. What excuse have I been hiding behind?

WHATEVER IT IS . . . DO IT NOW!

"We can be sure we know Christ. IF we obey his commands. The one who says, 'I know him,' but doesn't do what he commands is a liar."
- 1 John 2:3-4

THIS WEEK: Take 30 minutes to prayerfully write down your plan for the rest of this year. Pray: *Father, what do YOU want me to do during this time? (Personal Growth, Family, Services, Finances, etc.)*

"We should make plans – counting on God to direct us."
- Proverbs 16:9 (LB)

面對茫茫前路的信心

雅各書:在人生困境中活出真信心－第二十章

23 Aug 2020

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“沒有人知道將來會發生甚麼事，也沒有人能告訴我們。” - 傳道書 8:7 (意譯)

“聽着，你們說：「今天或者明天，我們要到某城去，在那裏住上一年，做生意賺錢。」你們怎麼知道自己明天會怎樣呢？你們的生命如同晨霧，出現片刻便消散了。你們應當說：「如果主願意，我們就可以活着，可以做這事或做那事。」否則你們就是在誇耀自己的計劃，這樣的自誇都是邪惡的。要記着，人明明知道該做甚麼卻不去做，便是犯罪了。” - 雅各書 4:13-17 (新普及譯本)

在規劃未來時會犯下的三個錯誤 和每一個錯誤的解決方法

1. 我們訂立計劃時，沒有_____上帝

“聽着，你們說：「今天或者明天，我們要到某城去，在那裏住上一年，做生意賺錢。」” - 雅各書 4:13 (新普及譯本)

要得到上帝的祝福，就要讓祂參與我的計劃

關鍵一：在計劃人生時，要_____

“要完全信靠上主，不可倚仗自己的聰明。你無論做甚麼，都要尋求他的心意，他必指示你當走的路。” - 箴言 3:5-6 (新普及譯本)

“如果你想知道上帝要你做甚麼，只要求問他，他會欣然告訴你，因為他總是樂於賜下充足智慧給那求問他的人。” - 雅各書 1:5 (LB 意譯)

大衛禱告：“若你告訴我要怎樣做，我就會全力以赴。” - 詩篇 119:32 (The Message 意譯)

2. 我們_____還有明天

“你們怎麼知道自己明天會怎樣呢？你們的生命如同晨霧，出現片刻便消散了。你們應當說：「如果主願意，我們就可以活着，可以做這事或做那事。」否則你們就是在誇耀自己的計劃，這樣的自誇都是邪惡的。”

- 雅各書 4:14-16 (新普及譯本)

關鍵二：活好每一天，並且要過得_____

“因此，不要為明天憂慮，明天自有明天的憂慮。要知道，每一天自有它的難處，這已經夠了。” - 馬太福音 6:34 (中文標準譯本)

“不要橫蠻地吹噓自己明天要做的事情，因為你根本不知道明天的事情！” - 箴言 27:1 (The Message 意譯)

3. 我們_____去做正確、美好的事情

“要記着，人明明知道該做甚麼卻不去做，便是犯罪了。”

- 雅各書 4:17 (新普及譯本)

功課：請你想一想

1. 你在靈命成長和順服上需要邁出怎樣的一步？參與事奉？(你的事工)
2. 有那些是上帝想我去做，而我還是不去做？
3. 我一直躲在甚麼藉口背後？

無論是甚麼，現在就去做！

“如果我們遵守他的命令，就能確定自己認識他。如果有人聲稱「我認識上帝」，卻不遵守他的命令，那人就是說謊的。” - 約翰一書 2:3-4 (新普及譯本)

這個星期：騰出30分鐘，以禱告的心為今年餘下時間訂立計劃。禱告說：天父，祢想我在今年餘下時間做甚麼？(個人成長、家庭、事奉、財務等等)

“策劃在人；但上主導引你的腳步。” - 箴言 16:9 (現中修訂版)