

Hope for My Future

Series: A Hopeful Life

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Scripture: James 4:13-17

¹³Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit."

¹⁴Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

¹⁵Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that."

¹⁶But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil.

¹⁷Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Group Session

Opening Questions

Have you ever had any hopes for your life shattered? Are there any you'd be willing to share?

Discussing the Scripture & Life

1. We in our culture are often guilty of "self-sovereignty" or believing that we are ultimately in control of our lives. Why do you think Americans are so guilty of this?
2. What types of things help us see this is not true?
3. We also suffer from the wrong feeling that life is certain. Have you ever had experiences that snapped you out of this? Would you be willing to share one?
4. We misbelieve before we misbehave. Do you believe this to be true or false? Can you give examples or back up what you believe? (This is true.)
5. Our view of life because it informs what we think, and ultimately how we act. Read through the Scripture above and make some statements that would help us have a healthy view of life.
6. Why do you think it is important for us to say, "If the Lord wills..." as we talk about our plans, desires and goals?
7. Seeking to know and follow God's will should be our prime focus as believers. What are you doing to know God and to follow His will for your life?

8. Have you ever written life goals? If so, are the things you do during the day meeting those goals? If not, imagine you had. Are the things you do on a daily basis leading toward what you want to be known for at the end of your life?
9. Read Romans 8:28. What promise do we get from this verse as believers and followers of Jesus Christ?

Closing Challenge

Focus this week on knowing God so well that we can seriously know His plan for our lives. Share with the group your goal for spending time with God and putting Him first this week.