L E T ' S T A L K

JAMES : SUBMITTING TO GOD WALKING IN GRACE

You can either use this for personal application of Sunday's message or as part of your preparation for HomeGroup this week.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

I felt God saying not to be intimidated by the enemy. Though you can see his boasting, mocking, and threats, you may see friends getting hurt, or may be feeling overwhelmed, just keep your eyes fixed and stay the course.

Just like Jesus did when He went to the cross, because He could see what God had in store and knew He would rise again....He knew He would have the victory. Keep trusting God. He will bring the victory, no matter how the odds are stacked against you.

LET'S GO DEEPER

This week there are two options: **1 is as per normal for homegroups and personal devotion.**
2 is more for a deeper theological study if you want to do that.

James is addressing worldly behaviour and attitudes in the church using the example of conflict. He points out that…

1. It's an issue of the heart
2. God gives more grace
3. When we submit to Him and resist the devil he will flee.
4. When we draw near to Him, He draws near to us.

He starts and ends with 2 questions… What's the cause? *and* Who made you judge?

Option 1:

When we go to God he shows us the condition of our hearts and lives which intern effects how we relate to others.

1. On a scale of 1 - 5 how easy is it for you to step back and see others perspective and your potential fault or do you tend to find that a challenge?
2. What's your first reaction when you realise your attitude or actions have been more worldly than Spiritual?

The grace of God shows us we are loved, accepted, wanted and are able to come to God.

1. For you are these easy things to not just believe but also accept and live in?
2. What stops us walking in the full freedom of God's grace for us?

Option 2:

1. What is the biblical definition and understanding of grace?
2. When James says "God has more grace" - is there an end to His grace?
3. What's the difference between grace, licentiousness and legalism?
4. How should our understanding of God's grace impact our choices and lifestyle?

LET'S APPLY THIS

This week:
Spend time waiting on God and hearing Him, ask for a fresh and constant infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you when you are being more worldly than spiritual, ask Him to help you humbly change and also to extend grace to others.