

NOTES



PRAYER

Heavenly Father, in a world filled with distractions and allurements, we come before You seeking Your guidance and strength to remain steadfast in the truth of the Gospel. Help us to resist the temptations of worldliness and to be actively engaged in sharing the transformative message of Your love and redemption. May Your Gospel be proclaimed boldly in our lives and communities. In Jesus' name, Amen.



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OPENING QUESTION (OPTIONAL)

If you had to live in a fictional world from a book or movie for a month, which one would it be and why?

WORD

[Read together as a group.]

Chapter 4

1 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? 2 You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

13 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." 16 As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. 17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Chapter 5

1 Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. 2 Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. 4 Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. 5 You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

[James 4:1-3, 13-17, 5:1-6 \(ESV\)](#)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. Share examples of how you've seen individuals or society as a whole prioritize worldly achievements over spiritual matters. How can we maintain a proper perspective on the brevity of life and the importance of living for eternity?
2. As followers of Christ, how can we actively resist the allure of materialism and power, and instead, advocate for justice and compassion towards those who are marginalized and oppressed?
3. How does worldliness hinder our ability to effectively demonstrate and communicate the Gospel message to others?
4. James 4:1-3 highlights how worldliness can lead to conflicts and fights among believers. Have you witnessed or experienced this in your own life or within the church community? How can we combat this tendency towards division caused by worldliness?

If anyone in the group desires to turn away from worldliness and receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior, they can pray this prayer:

"Lord Jesus, forgive me for the times I have been drawn away by the attractions of this world. I repent of my worldliness and surrender my life to You. Help me to deny myself, take up my cross, and follow You wholeheartedly. I believe that You are the Son of God who died for my sins and rose again. Come into my heart and be my Lord and Savior. May Your Gospel transform my life and empower me to live for Your glory. In Your name, Amen."