Do Good > James 4:13-17

4:13-14 *Doing good means embracing how life really is.* So often, we plan as if we're in charge. But it isn't so – and James points this out with his example: we plan for a year out when we don't even know what tomorrow will bring! We think that we're in control when our lives are so brief and fragile!

4:15 *Doing good means trusting the Lord for our plans.* What we need is simple: we are to acknowledge the Lord in all things. Not as a rote mantra or a phrase to tack on to our prayers, but instead: in our thinking, our will, what we want most; we are to submit all of our plans to His will and ways.

4:16-17 *Doing good means doing what the Lord calls good.* Finally, James wants us to define good in the same ways that the Lord does. We are to pursue a life that lives and loves in the very ways that He has called us to, asking Him to guide us through every one of our days.

The Point: James calls us to a different way of thinking in how we go about our days – one where we seek the Lord's will and ways rather than our own. One where doing good is actually possible, because it's doing what God says is best.

Prayer: Father, teach us to depend upon you, trusting you not only for salvation in Christ, but for all of our days as well.

Application: How will you make a habit of calling on the Lord for guidance and direction? What will trusting Him for each day look like in your life? How will you honor Jesus with your plans?

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____

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