

Tuesday, November 15 - Read James 5:1-6

1. What does James mean that their riches have rotted and corroded? What causes this?
2. Why will this corrosion be evidence against them?
 - a. What else will this corrosion do?
3. What does it mean to be laying up treasure in the last days?
 - a. Why would a Christian ever do this?
 - b. What does it say about their heart and their faith?
4. What could or should they have done regarding their wealth so that it would not have corroded?
 - a. How does I Timothy 6:17-19 help us again here?
 - b. How does the fact that we are living in the last days bear on that?
5. Is earthly wealth a blessing from God?
6. Is it also a test from God?
7. Do other gifts from God have bring this same blessing/test dynamic?

KTFK: use our / for the / the fall. / the one / others to / them from / good of / May we / all, drawing / who saves / earthly wealth

Song: "Living for Jesus"

Prayer: "Lord, it is such a temptation to forget that we are in the last days and to store up things for ourselves and our comfort in the days and with the skills and opportunities that you have given. Help us to use all that you have given not only to take care of our physical needs, but also to build your church as these last days close before your return. Amen."

Wednesday, November 16 - Read James 5:1-6

1. What information does James give us in verse 4 that helps us understand more fully just who these rich are that James is condemning?
2. Why would someone who is rich keep back wages by fraud?
 - a. How would someone do that? What excuse might they give?
3. How might setting your heart on riches cause otherwise good people to begin to operate by fraud?
4. Have you ever operated by fraud in this way, keeping something from someone that you owed to them?
5. Would you say that the situation that James describes here regarding the wages that were kept back by fraud would be a case of economic injustice? Why?
6. How would you define "just" economic activities? What makes them just in God's eyes?
7. Should Christians advocate for economic justice? What does that mean?

KTFK: within the / all the / it may / human race. / source of / Let us / be a / marketplace, that / good for / justly operate

Song: "We Plow the Fields and Scatter"

Prayer: "Lord God, we thank you for the opportunity to operate within an economy that is largely free and just. Help us never to operate in fraud in any way, essentially stealing from others something that is due to them – something that they labored for. A free exchange of products and services is such a beautiful aspect of the life you have given us. Help us to cherish it and to use it for the good of all. Amen."

Thursday, November 17 - Read James 5:1-6

1. If you were to rate your life from 1-10 in terms of the degree to which you live in luxury and self-indulgence, what score would you give?
2. What are the signs of living in self-indulgence?
 - a. How many vacations per year, for example, does it take to reach that level?
 - b. How many luxury items can you have (i.e., large home, expensive cars, pool, hot tub, boat, motorcycle, trailer, big screen TV, cottage, etc.) before you reach a point of living in self-indulgence?
3. To what degree do you believe it is good and godly to use your resources in ways that bring you comfort, pleasure and joy?
 - a. Does it change things if you share some of these things with others?
4. Are there good reasons to sometimes purchase expensive, high-quality items?
 - a. Like what?
5. How do you know when/if a purchase or a use of your God-given resources is a godly thing to do?
6. Is it possible to make this determination for others?
7. Is it necessary to make this determination for yourself?
 - a. Have you done it?

KTFK: enough, and / and all / there is / on you / of when / great God / can draw / your stuff. / would smile / Only you / whether our / the line

Song: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

Prayer: "Lord, please give me the eyes I need in order to see my life as you see it and not to turn a deaf ear to your warnings regarding self-indulgence. Help me also to make changes I need to make in order to know more surely that I am avoiding this great danger. Amen."

Friday, November 18 - Read James 5:1-6

1. What do you think James is referring to by saying in verse 6 that they “have condemned and murdered the righteous person” who “does not resist” them?
2. What might this have to do with the situation described in verse 4?
3. In what way would these rich have essentially “condemned” those whose wages they kept back by fraud?
 - a. How might it have been connected to the expressed reasons they claimed that they didn’t need to pay these wages?
4. In what way is this also a kind of murder?
5. The word “resist” can also be translated “oppose.” What point would James be making by adding this fact?
6. We are told in I Timothy 6:10 that the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. How is this showing itself to be true in the situation that James is addressing?
7. Has the love of money been a root of any evils in your life?

KTFK: should fear / grins. / leads us / other sins, / The love / winks and / and we / it with / of money / into many / to treat / nods and

Song: “Jesus Calls Us”

Prayer: “LORD God, forgive me for not taking seriously enough the great danger of living in these last days in luxury and self-indulgence. Help me to make any changes that your perfect love would direct. Amen.”

Saturday, November 19

Read the entire passage again and review the key thoughts from each day. Which did you find most important for you this week?

Family Worship 2022
November 14-19
James 5:1-6

Kids and Parents: See if you can unscramble the daily
KTFK - Key Thought for Kids (Answers on back page)

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. ²Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. ³Your 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. ⁴Behold, 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. ⁵You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

Monday, November 14

1. Who is James addressing here?
2. Do you understand these to be rich Christians, rich non-Christians, or both?
 - a. Who is the rich man James refers to in 1:9-11?
 - i. How does this help us?
 - b. Is this, then, a condemnation on all those who are rich or on the improper use of riches?
 - c. Read Matthew 19:16-30 and I Timothy 6:17-19.
 - i. How do these help us?
3. Why is it important to identify exactly what/who James is condemning?
4. Would you consider yourself to be rich?
 - a. Would others consider you to be rich?
5. To what degree, then, does James have you in mind?

KTFK: avoid the / understand the / attack the / ordered and / warning so / sin, then / we will / we may / Let us / greed within. / be rightly

Song: “Take My Life and Let It Be”

Prayer: “Lord, we know that our definition of rich is usually someone who has more than we do, yet we confess that the desire for worldly treasure is an ongoing challenge and test for us. As we consider this test this week, please give us eyes to see ways in which we should take notice of this warning and change our ways. Amen.”

Nov 14 - Let us / understand the / warning so / we may / avoid the / sin, then / we will / be rightly / ordered and / attack the / greed within.
Nov 15 - May we / use our / earthly wealth / for the / good of / all, drawing / others to / the one / who saves / them from / the fall.
Nov 16 - Let us / justly operate / within the / marketplace, that / it may / be a / source of / good for / all the / human race.
Nov 17 - Only you / can draw / the line / of when / there is / enough, and / whether our / great God / would smile / on you / and all / your stuff.
Nov 18 - The love / of money / leads us / into many / other sins, / and we / should fear / to treat / it with / winks and / nods and / grins.