THE GAP

This month in the youth group, we're studying the book of James. I think it's no coincidence that there was an adult Bible study over the Summer that focused on James, and that the men's group on Wednesday nights is also studying James. It's a short but powerful book all packed with practical instruction on living the Christian life.

We just wrapped up a month long study of Next in youth, which was all about taking one's faith to the next level. James is a great follow-up to that, as he is constantly challenging his audience to consider the gap: that space between who we say we are on Sunday mornings and who we act like on Monday afternoons. Do our actions reflect Christ? Our words? Are we merely hearers of the Word, or are we doers of it?

I've read James many times throughout my life, but I always find it convicting when I read it. Where is my gap? Is it in the way I speak to my wife? How I spend my money? Where I invest my time and energy? The answer to this has been different each time I've read this book, and my goal with this study is for our students to consider where their gap is.

Where is yours?

"Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls. But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it. If you claim to be religious but don't control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless. Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you." - James 1:19-27

Jach fordic

LAST WEEK @ CROSS CHURCH:

WEEKLY NEEDS: \$9,986.55

OFFERING: \$10,659.02

DIFFERENCE: +\$672.47

BUILDING FUND: \$137,011.47

ATTENDANCE:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH 240

ONLINE 21

FAMILY NIGHT 165

COMING UP:

UNITED OKC ONENIGHT SEPTEMBER 24TH - 6:00 PM

WORSHIP NIGHTOCTOBER 26TH - 6:00 PM

