

CAC LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

James: Faith in Real Life – September 21, 2025

Big Idea: Life is like a mist.

Ice Breaker

What's the thing you most looked forward to as a kid? What's the thing you most look forward to now?

Key Points

Take a few minutes to review the key points from this week's sermon:

- Life is fleeting, forgettable, and fragile.
- Faith reminds us of eternity: this life isn't the ultimate life.
- Faith shapes our legacy: the seeds we plant can grow long after we are gone.
- Faith calls us to urgency: we don't control tomorrow, but we do have today.
- Planning is wise, but prideful self-assurance about the future is foolish.
- Real faith leads us not just to know the good we should do, but to actually do it.

Discussion Questions

Based on the sermon, discuss the questions below:

- What was your biggest takeaway? What struck you personally?
- Did anything in the message bother you or raise questions for you?
- How does the "mist" image from James 4:14 affect the way you think about your own life?

Making it Personal

Review with your group the impact this week's sermon made on you personally:

- Where do you see yourself assuming that tomorrow is guaranteed?
- Where do you struggle with flaws in your planning? Do you act like tomorrow is certain, like you control your future, or like you have God's plan all figured out? Give a specific example.
- Has God ever radically redirected your plans? What was your reaction? What was the outcome?
- Who in your life has left a notable legacy? Share about how they did so and the impact it has left on you or someone else.
- How do you hope to be remembered? What seeds are you planting that could become your legacy?
- When you shift your perspective from temporal to eternal, how does that change your outlook on life's problems? Is this easy for you to keep in focus, or do you struggle with it?
- How do you live differently when you remember eternity is real and the best is yet to come?

Scripture Review

Revisit these passages and discuss the questions below:

- How is the person who perseveres under trial described in James 1:12? Why is this?
- Where do you see James discussing the future plans of people? What is James trying to communicate through James 4:13-15?
- How is boasting described in James 4:16? Why do you think this is?

Diving Deeper

Explore other Scriptures that connect to this week's message:

- **Old Testament:** Psalm 90:12; Ecclesiastes 1:2-4; Proverbs 27:1, Psalm 39:4-7, Psalm 49:12-20, Proverbs 13:22, Proverbs 16:3, Proverbs 22:6, Isaiah 48:17
- **New Testament:** Matthew 6:19-21, 25-34; Luke 12:15-21; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Hebrews 9:27-28, Hebrews 13:16, 1 John 2:15-17, 1 John 3:17

Application & Action

Your legacy can outlive you—not for your glory, but to point others to Jesus and advance His kingdom. Life is fragile, but that makes today full of opportunity. We can live with urgency, do the good we know to do, and seek God's will in our plans. As we reflect on this week's message, let's ask how Jesus is inviting us to live with His perspective.

Revisit the Word

- Read James 4:13–17 aloud again. Before you read, pause and ask: "Jesus, what do You want me to notice about how I live today?"

Personal Reflection

- Take 2–3 minutes to think silently: "What is one area of my life where I need to live with more urgency, because tomorrow isn't guaranteed?" Write down a phrase or sentence from this time.

Group Discussion

- **Listening to Jesus:** What's one area of life where you tend to plan every detail or hold on tightly? How might Jesus be inviting you to leave that space more open to Him and listen for His leading—in a relationship, a daily habit, or something coming up in your schedule?
- **Walking with Him:** What's one good thing you know to do this week, that you need to stop putting off?
- **Anchoring in His Word:** Which verse about life's brevity (James 4:14, Psalm 90:12, etc.) will you hold onto this week?
- **Leaning on His People:** Who can you invite into your journey of urgency and legacy, someone to encourage or hold you accountable?
- **Growing in His Likeness:** Which Christlike quality (humility, faithfulness, courage, urgency, generosity) do you sense Jesus wants to grow in you this week? What would it look like to live that out in a practical way, such as showing deeper generosity with your time, money, or help to someone in need?
- **Action Step:** Finish this sentence: "This week, I will live with urgency by..."

Prayer

Close your group time by praying over each person's action step. (Example: "Jesus, help [name] to live today fully for You, and give them courage to do the good they know they ought to do.")

Daily 2-Minute Practice: Pause, Invite, Anchor

- **Pause** (30 seconds): Take a deep breath. Ask Jesus: "Where am I living as if tomorrow is guaranteed?"
- **Invite** (1 minute): Bring that area to Him. "Lord, help me not to wait. Give me courage to do the good I know to do today."
- **Anchor** (30 seconds): Repeat James 4:14 or another chosen verse. Keep it before you as a reminder to live with eternity, legacy, and urgency.