

Week 9, Devotional 1 – James 4:11

Activity	Source
<b>Prayer</b>	<u>Adoration:</u> Lord, you are the ultimate judge of all things. Help us to know you more now.
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	James 4:11
<b>Discussion Questions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What does it mean to speak evil against one another? (hint: it means to gossip or trying to hurt someone else’s reputation).</li> <li>2. What is gossip? (hint: when you talk about someone else without them present for the purpose of tearing them down).</li> <li>3. Have you ever been gossiped about? Have you ever gossiped about someone else?</li> <li>4. Does this mean we should never say something that can make someone else look worse? (hint: no. There are times when we must be honest about what others have done to us or in front of us – but we must check our motivations to make sure we aren’t trying being selfish or seeking any attention for ourselves).</li> <li>5. Why does it matter that God’s people don’t take part in this? (hint: because we are supposed to show the world what Jesus is like).</li> <li>6. What did you learn in this lesson?</li> </ol>
<b>Hymn/Song</b>	<p>Look up “At the Cross (Love Ran Red)” by Chris Tomlin</p> <p>V1:            There's a place            Where mercy reigns            And never dies</p> <p>There's a place            Where streams of grace            Flow deep and wide</p> <p>Pre-Chorus:            Where all the love            I've ever found            Comes like a flood            Comes flowing down</p> <p>Chorus:            At the cross, at the cross            I surrender my life            I'm in awe of You            I'm in awe of You            Where Your love ran red            And my sin washed white            I owe all to You            I owe all to You Jesus</p> <p>V2:</p>

	<p>There's a place Where sin and shame Are powerless</p> <p>Where my heart Has peace with God And forgiveness</p> <p>Pre-Chorus: Where all the love I've ever found Comes like a flood Comes flowing down</p> <p>Chorus: At the cross, at the cross I surrender my life I'm in awe of You I'm in awe of You Where Your love ran red And my sin washed white I owe all to You I owe all to You</p> <p>Bridge: Here my hope is found Here on holy ground Here I bow down Here I bow down</p> <p>Here arms open wide Here You save my life Here I bow down Here I bow down</p>
<b>Prayer</b>	<p><u>Confession:</u> God, I repent of the times that I've talked about others in unkind ways. Remind me how much you love me – so I can love others like that.</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you for the grace you've shown me when I mess up or say things I shouldn't say. Thank you that you forgive me.</p> <p><u>Supplication:</u> Father, help me to show that same grace to others and love them even when I sometimes want to talk badly about them.</p>

Week 9, Devotional 2 – James 4:13-14

Activity	Source
Prayer	<u>Adoration:</u> Lord, you are eternal and unchanging – yet our life is like a mist that blows through the air and is gone suddenly. Help us to number our days and treasure each moment you give us.
Scripture Reading	James 4:13-14
Discussion Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is James warning against in verses 13 and 14? (hint: assuming tomorrow is promised).</li> <li>2. Why does it matter that we treat today as if tomorrow may not come?</li> <li>3. Does that reality change the way you live today? (if it hasn't already, it should).</li> <li>4. If today were your last day on earth, what would you make sure to do? Who would you make sure to talk to?</li> <li>5. Is there anyone you'd want to tell about Jesus?</li> <li>6. What did you learn through this lesson?</li> </ol>
Hymn/Song	<p>Listen to "Life Means So Much" by Chris Rice</p> <p>V1:            Every day is a journal page            Every man holds a quill and ink            And there's plenty of room for writing in            All we do in believe and think</p> <p>V2:            So will you compose a curse            Or will today bring the blessings?            Fill the page with rhyming verse            Or some random sketching</p> <p>Chorus:            Teach us to count the days            Teach us to make the days count            Lead us in better ways            Somehow our souls forgot            Life means so much, life means so much, life means so much</p> <p>V3:            Every day is a bank account            And time is our currency            So no one's rich, nobody's poor            We get twenty-four hours each</p> <p>V4:            So how are you gonna spend            Will you invest or squander            Try to get ahead            Or help someone who's under</p>

	<p>Chorus:  Teach us to count the days  Teach us to make the days count  Lead us in better ways  Somehow our souls forgot  Life means so much, life means so much, life means so much</p> <p>Bridge:  Has anybody lived who knew the value of a life  And don't you think giving is all will prove the worth of yours and mine?</p>
<b>Prayer</b>	<p><u>Confession:</u> Lord, we don't always treasure the moments you give us. Sometimes we live as if we will never run out of time on this earth.  <u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you that your Word reminds us of the shortness of this life – even if we live 120 years.  <u>Supplication:</u> Remind me to take advantage of opportunities today to tell others of your love for them. Give me a burden for the people I know who don't know you --- and give me a chance to tell them about what Jesus has done.</p>

Week 9, Devotional 3 – James 4:15-16

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Prayer</b>	<u>Adoration:</u> Lord, you know each star by name and make each planet spin – yet you love and care for me. You know the number of my days. Help me now to know you and your will more.
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	James 4:15-16
<b>Discussion Questions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Verses 13 and 14 remind us that tomorrow is not guaranteed. How does verse 15 say we ought to view the future?</li> <li>2. He says it is arrogant to assume we will live for many more days? Why is that? (hint: because only God knows the number of our days).</li> <li>3. If today were your last day, would you spend it napping or watching TV? (of course not).</li> <li>4. What would you do?</li> <li>5. Do you trust that God has a good plan that is better than your own?&gt;</li> <li>6. What did you learn through this lesson?</li> </ol>
<b>Hymn/Song</b>	<p>Look up “Trust You, Jesus” by Aaron Keyes</p> <p>V1:  Father of heavenly lights  Fount of wisdom and love  All is laid bare in your sight  You know my ways</p>

	<p>V2: I believe you will provide all I need in my life I will not fear anymore, For I will, ever...</p> <p>Chorus: Trust you, Jesus Trust you, Jesus Trust you with my life</p> <p>V3: You hold the world in your hands God of mercy and might Knew me before I was born Called me by Name</p> <p>V4: How could I ever respond but to fall and adore I love to know You more, Lord I will, ever...</p> <p>Chorus: Trust you, Jesus Trust you, Jesus Trust you with my life</p> <p>Bridge: Let not the wise trust in their wisdom Let not the strong boast in their might Let not the rich glory in riches I will trust You</p>
<b>Prayer</b>	<p><u>Confession</u>: Lord, I trust you with my life. Whatever you have for me – whatever you “will,” I want to do.</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving</u>: Thank you for reminding me that this life is a gift – whether it is short or long.</p> <p><u>Supplication</u>: Help me to trust you more and trust myself less.</p>

Week 9, Devotional 4 – James 4:17

Activity	Source
<b>Prayer</b>	<u>Adoration</u> : Lord, I often know the right thing and fail to do it. You never do that. You always do what is right. You are mighty and wise – help me to know you better now as I study your Word.
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	James 4:17
<b>Discussion Questions</b>	1. What does verse 17 say about knowing the right thing to do but not doing it?

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Sometimes, we view sin as “doing the wrong thing,” but it is also “not doing the right thing.” What do you think about that?</li> <li>3. Have you ever known the right thing to do but decided not to do it? Do you remember why?</li> <li>4. What is something that is always the right thing? (loving others, telling others about Jesus, serving those in need, etc.)</li> <li>5. Does God forgive us when we fail? (of course).</li> <li>6. What did you learn through this lesson?</li> </ol>
Hymn/Song	<p>Listen to “What Mercy Did for Me” by People and Songs</p> <p>V1:  I was hopeless  I knew I was lost  Death and darkness were my only songs  I needed someone to come rescue me  Then mercy heard my pleas</p> <p>Chorus:  Lord you found me  You healed me  You called me from the grave  You gave me your real love  I thank you Jesus  You washed my sins away  Oh now I'm living like I'm forgiving  You came and set me free  That's what your mercy did for me</p> <p>V2:  You gave me beauty for my guilty stains  And now I'm living day to day by his grace (yes I am)  So excuse me if I can't contain my praise  'Cause I know that I've been changed</p> <p>Chorus:  Lord you found me  You healed me  You called me from the grave  You gave me your real love  I thank you Jesus  You washed my sins away  Oh now I'm living like I'm forgiving  You came and set me free, yeah  That's what your mercy did for me</p> <p>Bridge:  Every morning mercy will restore me  I will proclaim  And even if the world should fall before me  I will proclaim</p>

<b>Prayer</b>	<p><u>Confession:</u> Lord, there are times when I do the wrong thing – and even more where I know the right thing but fail to do it. Forgive me.</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you that there is mercy and grace for the times that I fail because of what Jesus has done for me.</p> <p><u>Supplication:</u> God, help me to see opportunities to do the right thing this week – and give me boldness to do it.</p>

