# *Third Street Church*

# *Midweek Prayer and Bible Study*

# *Wednesday, May 27, 2020 - 6pm*

***Introductions/ Welcome/ Opening Prayer: Pastor Reid***

***The Word: Read James chapters 4 and 5***

***Key verses***

***4:7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.***

***5:7a Be patient, then brothers and sisters until the Lord’s coming***

***Reflection:***

James is still talking to Christians in around Palestine. The honesty of God's Word is apparent in that it does not concern itself with political correctness. It shows what happens to Christians and churches when they chose to live for selfish desires and for the things of this world rather than God. James clearly illustrates how actions and attitudes can reveal our true motives. James calls us to consider our motives and what our action and attitude reveal about us. Christ like living can be sobering when a light is shone on our selfishness. God can transform us where we need help. Thank God for that help and guidance. The Letter of James closes with the theme of faithful prayer. In trouble? Pray. Happy? Praise. Sick? Ask for prayer. See your brother or sister backsliding? Pray them back.

***Guiding Questions for Bible Study Discussion***

We conclude study of James today. Please feel free to join in during the study we all learn and are studying God’s Word together. This conference call study is not to judge but to support and fellowship as people of faith.

**James4 :1-17**

1. v.2 You do not \_\_\_\_\_ because you do not \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_. v.3 You ask and do not receive because you ask \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. What does this passage say about our prayers?
2. v.4Does it surprise you that God considers a Christian who claims to be a follower of Jesus Christ yet lives for worldly things and pleasures as spiritual adulterer? What did Paul’s companion Demas do? (2 Timothy 4:9-12). How would you advise a fellow Christian who may be drifting close to Demas’ situation?
3. v.14 What does this say about the temporary nature of this life?
4. James addresses business people that boast in what they have. This boasting minimizes the sovereignty of God and shows arrogance in may one’s plans. What does this key verse: ‘if the Lord wills”. say about we should do/say in making plans?
5. v. 17 There are basically two categories of sin: sins of commission, things we do wrong. And, sins of omission, things we should do, but don't. It is not only what people do that matters; the good that they fail to do is equality important to God. Which one do you struggle with more? What do you think the Lord wants you to do about it?

**James 5:1-19**

1. Why are riches a temptation? Are all rich people in sin? Explain. 4. What problem do possessions have according to 5:2,3?
2. V.14.- Read Mark 6:13 and Luke 10:34, then explain how anointing with oil is used there. (Think: What does v14 refer to, and what application should be made today?)
3. Explain the example of answered prayer in 5:17,18, and tell where it is described in the Old Testament.( 1Kings 17:1,18:1). Old testament biblical character who prayed is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. What should we do for those who wonder from the truth – 5:19,20? Explain why doing this is an act of love. Timely intervention will save one’s soul and bring forgiveness from God the one who does this is the one who restores the one who has fallen. We all know only God can cover sin but Christians can be agents of God’s forgiveness.(Gal.6:1, Heb.3:13)
5. Share a lesson that is beginning to change your life from this study of James.

**Apply God’s Word to your Life:**

 Is there something within your plans and goals that you haven’t “cleared” with God ­ first? Invite God to direct every step.

**What Inspires you these days?**

What's giving you inspiration and hope these days? A song, hymn, scripture, special reading? How has it helped inspire you? If you feel led, please share with the group.

﻿**Faith in Action:**. As Christians we are *the hands and feet of Christ in the world*. Let your light so shine so that others can see Christ in you! The physical church doors are closed but we are the church wherever we are. Give, share, pray, reach out.  ***We are the Church.*** Reaching out : text, call, email, US mail or virtual, that is our mission as body of Christ.

**Evening Prayer- Pastor Reid. Let us lift up people/situations in God’s world for prayer:** *Whisper a prayer in the morning, whisper a prayer at noon, whisper a prayer in the evening it will keep your heart in tune*

 **Closing Hymn: Lord Keep Me Day By Day – Albertina Walker**

*Lord keep me day by day in a pure and perfect way*

*I am just a stranger here traveling through this barren land*

*Lord keep my body strong so that I can do no wrong, give me grace to run this Christian race Lord. I wanna live in a building not made by hand…*

**Words of Sending:**
L: My brothers and Sisters in Christ go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
**ALL: in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen**

Thank you for joining our Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer this week!

With the Love of Christ,

Pastor Reid

of worldliness (ch. 4), and of a warning to the rich (ch. 5).