LEARNING AND LIVING A FAITH THAT WORKS Week 9

Aaron Nash August 19, 2018

The main theme for our series is James 1:4b ESV

That you may be perfect (mature) and complete, lacking in nothing.

Independence vs. Dependence

James 4:13-17 NLT

¹³ Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"—¹⁴ yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." 16 As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. ¹⁷ So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

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James 4:13-14, 16 ESV

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Characteristics of arrogant independence according to James: - There is a failure to <u>factor</u> God into life.

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- There is a failure to understand our own limitations.
- There is a failure to understand the unpredictability of life.
- There is a failure to see our own pride and arrogance.

An example of arrogant independence was Adam and Eve.

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Genesis 3:5-7 NLT

⁵ "God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil." ⁶ The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. ⁷ At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

II. A course correction to live in humble dependence on God.

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James 4:15 ESV ¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."

- There is a understanding of the lordship of God.

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- There is a understanding of God's sovereignty.

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- There is a understanding of God's sovereignty.
- There is a desire to hear and obey the leading of God.

An example of humble dependence was **Paul.**

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Acts 18:21 NLT ²¹ As he left, however, he said, "I will come back later, God willing." An example of humble dependence was **Paul.**

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I Corinthians 16:7 NLT 7 This time I don't want to make just a short visit and then go right on. I want to come and stay awhile, if the Lord will let me.

III. A challenge to live according to what we know in the Lord.

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James 4:17 ESV ¹⁷ So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. III. A challenge to live according to what we know in the Lord.

Luke 12:42-48 NLT

⁴² And the Lord replied, "A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them. 43 If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward. 44 I tell you the truth, the master will put that servant in charge of all he owns. 45 But what if the servant thinks, 'My master won't be back for a while,' and he begins beating the other servants,

partying, and getting drunk?⁴⁶ The master will return unannounced and unexpected, and he will cut the servant in pieces and banish him with the unfaithful".

⁴⁷ "And a servant who knows what the master wants, but isn't prepared and doesn't carry out those instructions, will be severely punished. ⁴⁸ But someone who does not know, and then does something wrong, will be punished only lightly. When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required".

