

PRAYER FOR ALL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

JAMES 5:12-18

1 **Before we begin with James 5:13-18, let us spend time on James 5:12.** James has already spent a large section of the letter on the topic of the tongue (3:1-12). While in the previous section he spent time describing the power and abuse of the tongue, in v12 he is showing the believer the right manner of the tongue.

⚙️ *How would you rewrite and apply v12 to fit your contexts and the various spheres in which you engage with people, such as, church, work, friends, or soccer leagues?*

♥️ *Read the following passages: Matthew 5:8, 5:34; Proverbs 10:9, 11:3, 12:17, 12:22, 28:18. What areas in your life seem to disregard the Christian's call to absolute honesty? Why is it hard in our world today to maintain this ethical standard?*

♥️ *A lack of verbal integrity seems to lead to condemnation before God. This cannot be in reference to our eternal standing before God. James is addressing his hearers as "brothers and sisters". What then are the consequences that James is possibly warning about? (Hint: Hebrews 12:6-11) What are ways that you need to grow in this aspect of the Christian life?*

2 **Life is always going to medley of ups and downs, but what seems to be a constant is how we are to respond.** James asks those who are suffering to pray, and those who are cheerful to sing praise, which is simply praying in thanksgiving, giving God glory. Through our ever-changing circumstances how does Malachi 3:6 give us confidence?

🗨️ *Why must we pray during times of trial? What about the nature of God, gives us confidence to pray to him in the midst of trials? Consider the following prayers: Psalm 17:6-7, 69:16, 86:1-7. Also consider Psalm 34:4, 118:5-7; 138:1-3.*

♥️ *We are all called to praise God in cheerful times. Is this a response you find active in your life? Read Psalm 145:1-7; list the lessons can we learn from David's praise.*

🗨️ *What are ways that we can make praise a regular part of our lives? When you pray, how much time do you spend praising God for his goodness towards you, before rolling into a list of desires and wishes?*

