

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

WANT MORE CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY?

- Check out this free **Verse-by-Verse Bible Commentary**, available through www.StudyLight.org.
- Watch an **overview video of the Book of James**, available from www.BibleProject.com.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Can you think of a time when you spent money on something that didn't last as long as you had hoped? Tell your group about it.
- Have you ever caught yourself measuring someone else based on what kind of job they have, house they live in, car they drive, or vacations they go on? Why do we tend to do this?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, **Pastor Abe gave us several sobering reminders from James 1:9-11.**

In your trial, remember:**1. God's Words to the *Poor* (James 1:9)**

- James tells the "lowly brother" to remember what he has in Christ. What are some other passages of Scripture that remind Christians what they have when you are in Christ?
- Be honest, who/what do you tend to run to when you are in a financial trial?
- Why is it sometimes difficult to live as though our satisfaction is in our Savior, not in our stuff?
- Read 1 Peter 1:3-7 and 1 Corinthians 1:30-31. What might it look like to boast in the Lord this upcoming week?

2. God's Words to the *Rich* (James 1:10-11)

- James says that the "rich" man should rejoice in his trials because trials will cause him to depend on Jesus and not on his riches. How does James' advice to the rich compare/contrast to his advice to the poor?
- Pastor Abe reminded us that life is short. What are some circumstances in your own life right now that help you remember that you don't know what tomorrow will bring?
- What would change in your life right now if you spent each day as if it may be your last?
- How might you answer this question that Pastor Abe asked: If my boast is in Christ and my riches are fading and my life is short, why do I continue to pursue earthly treasures to satisfy me?
- Our Generosity Core Value says, "God owns everything, so I will invest in eternity what He has given me temporarily." How can you invest your resources for eternity right now?

Only one life, 'twill soon be past. Only what's done for Christ will last. - C.T. Studd

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that each person in your group would trust God, not temporary resources, in times of trial.

