

# SHOW JAMES

PART NINE

*faith that works*

JAMES 4:13-15

## Key points

Think back through the message.  
What stuck out?

### PLAN IN FAITH

- vs.13
- Braggadocios = *vain empty boasting*
- Does God object to Christians making a profit?
- vs.15
- The subject for James isn't business, it's our whole life
- It's so easy when we're driven by our problem or opportunities to lose our dependence on the Living God
- The problem is human lordship and arrogance

### WE NEED TO GET REAL

- vs.13 Come now (Get Real!)
- Getting real about just how smart human lordship really is
- A choice between realities
- vs.14
- We are but mist
- Death is a judgment on human lordship
- We don't know what tomorrow will bring
- vs.16
- All such boasting is beyond sinful
- Lordship is the essence of Christianity
- Matthew 26:39

### HOW CAN WE KNOW WE ARE SURRENDERED, AND STAY SURRENDERED?

1. Think, plan and do, but know your limits
  - Romans 8:28
2. Think, plan and do, but know the Lord's greatness
3. Say the words of surrender over everything important in your life
4. Repent and surrender

## Surrender—the Way to Hear God's Voice

Do you want to hear God's voice? Do you want to understand His will for your life, and walk in a greater revelation of it? Are you hungry for breakthrough?

### The Power of Surrender

Oftentimes, it's our will that gets in the way of hearing God's voice and following His will. Deep inside, we have our own plan for how things should go, such as what job we will get, how successful we should be - and we really don't want to give it up. It's not that God can't speak to us, and He often does, but we miss it because it's not what we're expecting. We're still clinging to "our will be done." That's why we need the power of surrender.

### Jesus, Our Perfect Example

Jesus, "the author and finisher of our faith," modelled this for us in the garden of Gethsemane (Hebrews 12:2). About to face betrayal, torture, and the worst death possible on the cross, He cried out in anguish to His Father (Matthew 26:39).

Jesus was honest about what He wanted. He did not hide His emotions or desires, but then He said something amazing: "Nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

We can all learn from this phrase. Sometimes our will aligns with God's will, and we get what we're asking for, but it's not always the case. We must also not think that if we want something, it automatically *can't* be from God; many of our desires are God-given, but we must submit them, and ourselves, to Him first.

### Denying Ourselves Is Freedom

Jesus said when if you want to find your life, you must lose it for the Gospel and for His sake (Matthew 10:39). In dying to ourselves, which means laying down our selfish desires, we allow God to raise us up like He did Christ. Resurrected and transformed spiritually, we are free to walk with the Lord wherever He leads.

In this way, God can direct us easily because our spirits are open to doing what He says. The more we surrender to Him, the easier it is for Him to speak to us. **Read Psalms 32:8-9.**

### It's a Choice

We all have a choice about how much we're going to trust, and the more we do it, the easier it can become — even when it's something hard. **Read Daniel 12:3 & Proverbs 14:12**

And so, we pray in surrender, "Father, not as I will," but "Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10).

