

BIBLE STUDY 3: Hope in our Game-changing God (James 5:1-20)

1. Think of something you're looking forward to. How does it change your outlook and actions now?

2. Read James 5:3, 8. What event does James remind Christians to look forward to?

Read James 5:1-6

3. List some dangers of wealth described in these verses. Which ones are you prone to?

4. How does God want us to use our wealth in 'the last days'? Read Matthew 25:35-40, 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Ephesians 4:28.

Read James 5:7-12

5. What is the connection between patience and grumbling and judging in verses 8-9?

6. When are you most tempted to be impatient? Discuss practical ways to combat this.

7. What do verses 9 and 11 tell us about God's character? How does this change your view of suffering?

8. What is the problem with oath-taking v12? (see also Matthew 5:33-37)

Read James 5:13-20

9. List the kinds of prayer in v13-16. Are there things you hesitate to pray for? Why?

10. Is physical healing always connected with forgiveness of sins?

11. Why does God sometimes not grant our requests? (Compare James 5:15 firstly with Matthew 26:39, but secondly with James 1:5-8)

12. From verse 19-20, how are we responsible for other Christians? What might 'bringing people back from wandering' involve for us? Pray together for those who come to mind now.

### TALK 3: Hope in our Game-changing God (James 5:1-20)

Our hope in Jesus' return changes our approach to life now, shaping our view of what really matters.

Recap – James 1:26-27

\*A Game Changer

National Treasure

Hope - Jesus is coming!

\*5:1-6 Treasure... or trash?

Knowing Jesus is coming soon changes our approach to wealth.

The world's way

Our game-changing God

God's way

\*5:7-12 Patience and perseverance

Knowing Jesus is coming soon changes our approach to suffering.

The world's way

Our game-changing God

God's way

\*5:13-20 Prayerfulness

Knowing Jesus is coming soon changes our approach to prayer.

The world's way

Our game-changing God

God's way

Rom 6:12 'Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.'

\*V19-20 Saved from death – mutual accountability

The main game

Time is short

Following our game-changing God