

JAMES

MARK IT UP

James 4:11-17 Discussion Guide

Week of 5/8/22

Icebreaker: What kind of plans are you making for this summer?

Getting Started: Read James 4:11-17 as a group.

1. According to verses 11-12, what is the problem with speaking evil against another believer? It may be helpful to read Leviticus 19:16-18 and James 2:8.

Application: What are some practical consequences you've observed when brothers and sisters in Christ speak evil against each other?

2. Why do you think James is emphasizing that, "There is only one lawgiver and judge..." in v. 12?

Application: When do you feel most tempted or justified to judge others?

3. According to James, what's wrong with the perspective of those speaking the words of verse 13?

Application: Think of some of the major decisions or plans you've made. How did your mindset compare with what's stated in verse 13?

Application: What example can you think of where your best plans didn't go as you wanted, but that you're thankful for now?

4. How would you describe the kind of mindset James calls us to adopt in verses 14-15?

Application: We might feel depressed by verses 14-15, but is it possible that this mindset could actually cause us to live with greater peace and confidence?

5. What differences do you think James is calling us to see between the two statements expressed in verses 13 and 15?

Application: What do you think it would look like for you to apply the perspective of verse 15 to a decision or plan you're facing right now?