



Sunday, February 20, 2022

Sermon Series:
James: A Practical Faith that Works

Title: *“How to Really Live Like You Were Dying”*

Text: James 4:11-17

Pastor Perry Kallis

Big Idea: How we think and speak about our future plans reveals how we will relate to the sovereign power and grace of God’s eternal purposes for us.

Four important truths about future planning:

- 1) My plans are always **unpredictable**. (James 4:13-14a / Proverbs 27:1 / Psalm 31:14-15)
- 2) My plans are always **unsatisfying**. (James 4:14b / Ecclesiastes 1:14 / Psalm 90:12)
- 3) My plans are always **second**. (James 4:15-16 / Luke 6:46 / Psalm 31:3-5)
- 3) My plans should always bring about **righteousness**.
(James 4:17 / Ephesians 2:10 / Psalm 90:12)

“Deo Volenta” is an attitude that declares “God willing” over all our personal plans.

Study/Application Questions and Actions:

- 1) What is a recent “rumble strip” event in your life that awakened you to the reality that your plans don’t always happen as expected?
- 2) What might be some godly reasons to continue making plans, even though these plans are always unpredictable?
- 3) How might believers be sure they are not allowing their own plans to bear the weight of providing satisfaction that can only come from God?
- 4) Being second to God’s first place priority is difficult. How do you train yourself to live in second place to a “God-willing” attitude in daily life?
- 5) If my plans should always bring about righteousness, how can that happen during the most challenging times of life?