

Sermon Discussion Questions — May 29, 2016
James 4:13-17 — “Looking to Jesus, Not to Our Plans”

1. What is wrong with the statement in James 4:13?
2. Can you identify characters in the Bible who were guilty of planning by pride? (for example, try Genesis 16; Genesis 37; and Daniel 4)
3. Why is v. 13 an example of boasting? Why is it evil?
4. How do you typically respond when your plans don't work out as you had hoped? What emotions do you experience? What sins might you be especially tempted to indulge because of those emotions?
5. Is it necessary always to say “if the Lord wills” all the time? What is James 4:15 encouraging us to do? How does it encourage us to think?
6. Can you identify biblical stories in which people received blessings beyond anything that they hoped or imagined? Can you identify times in your life when you received something that better than you had ever asked or imagined? How does this help you to plan by faith and hold our plans loosely by humbly trusting the Lord's will?