

2017

BEST YEAR EVER

WEEK 7

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Introduction:

In this final week of our series, we are focusing on investing our lives well. We are considering what it means to make our lives count; to live “life to the full.” Jesus has big hopes & plans for each of us and if we can take a step in the direction of his plans, we know this truly can be our Best Year Ever.

Scripture:

James 4:13-17 — “Look here, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.’ How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it’s here a little while, then it’s gone. What you ought to say is, ‘If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.’ Otherwise you are boasting about your own pretentious plans, and all such boasting is evil. Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.”

Matthew 6:19-21 — “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you ever had a dream that turned out to be too small? Or have you ever experienced a single moment that made a big impact on you?
2. What are the human tendencies that James is warning against in 4:13-17?
3. What do you think it means to “store your treasures in heaven” (Matthew 6)?
4. Jesus has plans for our lives that are bigger than anything we can imagine.
 - How do we learn what those plans are, so we can begin to follow them?
 - How have you received direction from Jesus in the past?
5. In the first eight weeks of this year, what moment have you experienced or what interruption have you embraced that pulled you out of drifting & allowed you to experience “life to the full”, even if it was only for a minute?
6. What interruptions have you avoided this year that you wish you had embraced?
7. What is one step you could take to live more for what’s important and less for what’s convenient?

Take the Next Step:

What is that one step that keeps coming to mind that isn’t convenient, but truly is important? Is it a phone call? A text? A conversation? Maybe it’s a prompting to serve a meal at KARM or pray for someone who doesn’t have a bed to sleep in tonight? Whatever that interruption is, embrace it. Maybe this is the week you push back the drift, turn off autopilot and begin to live a life on purpose.