



You're Not In Control

James 4: 13-17

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August 30th, 2026

Leaders: *Don't feel pressured to get through every question during your group time. Our hope is that your group experiences honest conversation & goes deeper in God's Word—not that you finish the entire list. Feel free to choose the questions that best fit the needs of your group & allow the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion.*

1. Read and re-read James 4:13-17.
2. What most stood out to you from the sermon and why?
3. What area(s) in your life do you sound most like verse 13—confident about *today or tomorrow*, the place, the timeline, and the outcome—without first submitting it to the Lord?
4. James says we “do not know what tomorrow will bring.” What recent event in your life exposed how little control you actually have over tomorrow, and how did you respond in that moment?
5. Look at verse 14. If you treated your remaining years as mist rather than as a long runway, what would you start, stop, or rearrange this month?
6. Verse 15 does not forbid planning; it changes the *posture* of planning. What would it sound like, in your own words, to hold your next major plan that way? In what ways might you be resistant to it?
7. This passage discourages boasting in your own strength apart from God. Where might your competence, experience, or past success be quietly functioning as arrogance rather than stewardship?
8. Look at verse 17. What is one right thing you already know to do—toward God, a person, or a responsibility—that you have delayed while you “plan” other things?
9. Taken together, this passage links humble dependence (“if the Lord wills”) with immediate obedience (doing the good you already know). Which of those two is harder for you right now, and what would a faithful next step look like this week?

Reminders:

- **DK Teachers needed:** Do you have a heart for children and ministry? We are in need of DK Teachers and Crew, would love for you to serve on Sunday mornings as a **classroom teacher!** If this interests you, please email Shealey Sims at shealeys@harpethcc.com for more information!
- **Safety Team:** We are looking for a few additional men and women who have a heart to serve on our safety team ministry! Team members participate in ongoing training, work closely together, and are committed to being prepared to respond wisely- should the need

ever arise. Some members are licensed concealed carry holders, while others serve in non-firearm support roles. If you have a servant's heart, remain calm under pressure, and feel called to help protect our church family, we would love to talk with you. Contact **Nancy List** (nanlist429@gmail.com) for more information.

- **Digging Deep:** New Digging Deep class runs now through September 25! Join us as we study Christian Apologetics. Fridays from 6:30-8am in Room 117, Building C. Register below!



- **Fall Women's Wednesday Studies:** We have an AM and a PM class on Wednesdays this fall, studying *Elijah* by Priscilla Shirer! Classes run Sept. 16-Nov. 11. Childcare is provided for both classes, with prior registration. Register below and read more info by scanning the QR code!

