Sermon Notes

"Bringing Sin to the Light" - James 5:16-18

Pastor J Fischer

November 15, 2026

Big Idea: We are to be people who pursue spiritual restoration through confession and prayer.

1. What is Sin?
   a. To miss the mark
      i. Romans 5:12
   b. Choosing to do what is right in your own eyes.
   c. Sin is fundamentally a worship problem. It is misplaced worship. It is when we worship ourselves over God or in place of God.
   d. Sin will
      i. Sin will take you farther than you want to go!
      ii. Sin will keep you longer than you want to stay!
      iii. Sin will cost you more than you are willing to pay!
   e. Lies Satan uses
      i. You're alone! What will others think? You can't change! You are powerless! Are you truly saved?
   f. Is there a particular sin that is habitually dominating your life?

2. Confess your sins
   g. Confession agrees with God that what I have done is wrong and proclaiming to Him that I have broken His law
   h. Confession is taking that which has been hidden and bringing it to the light.
   i. We confess to
      i. To God who we have offended
      ii. To those we have sinned against
      iii. To those who are spiritual so that they might pray and help.

   Who is one person that you can go to confess your sin to so that you can begin the process of healing?

   If you are one who has gained victory over life dominating sin, are you willing to walk alongside someone who is stuck?

3. That you may be healed
   a. James promises that the pathway to being restored to God and others and gaining victory over sin begins with confession.
   b. Healing from sin's impact doesn't mean we are freed from sin's consequences; we must bear those. However, it begins the process of restoring that which sin has severed.

4. Application
   a. Who is one person that you can go to confess your sin to so that you can begin the process of healing?
   b. If you are one who has gained victory over life dominating sin are you willing to walk alongside someone who stuck?

Get Help

One Thing Remains
His Mercy Is More
Lord I Need You
Jesus Strong And Kind

Sermon Notes

James 5:13-15
Pastor Dan Madsen
November 8, 2026

James 5:13-15 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven

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Lord Most High
Across The Lands
Great Things

Sermon Notes

"Patience Till He Comes" - James 5:7-12

Pastor J Fischer

November 1, 2026

Big Idea: Because the Lord is coming, believers must patiently endure suffering and remain faithful to Him

A. Be patient for the Lord is coming *7-8*

- Biblical patience is the ability to endure hardship, provocation, or delayed relief without giving in to anger, retaliation, or discouragement, while _____ God and doing what is right.
- Biblical patience isn't inactivity. It is _____ your heart as you wait.
- We establish our hearts by being _____ in the Word, _____ in prayer and _____ in fellowship with the body of Christ.

  James wants us to be reminded of the prize that we are afforded for our patience in trial. It is _____ .

B. Guard your relationships and your hearts while you wait *9*

- _____ : Do not grumble against one another
- _____ : You will be judged by the Lord
- _____ : The Judge is standing at the door.

C. Learn from those who have endured *10-11*

- _____ is part of the Christian life
- God gives us imperfect examples of those who have suffered well.
- Our suffering always has meaning. It is never worthless. God will _____ something through it.
- Our suffering will ultimately lead to _____ .

D. Maintaining integrity in your words *12*

- James emphasizes the importance of honesty and straight forwardness
- When we are _____, it can be tempting to make promises we cannot keep or say anything that will get us out of the situation we are in.

Apply It

- Patience: Am I actively trusting God while I wait, or am I allowing my circumstances to make me impatient and discouraged?
- Relationships: When life becomes difficult, do I take my frustrations out on others through grumbling or criticism?
- Endurance: Do I continue to trust God's goodness when I cannot understand His purposes in my suffering?
- Integrity: Can people depend on my words, or do I need to be more truthful and dependable in what I say?

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Here I Am To Worship
Blessed Assurance
Sovereign Over Us

Sermon Notes

"When Wealth Testifies Against You" - James 5:1-6

Pastor J Fischer

October 25, 2026

BIG IDEA: BECAUSE GOD WILL JUDGE THE UNRIGHTEOUS USE OF WEALTH, WE MUST GUARD AGAINST SELFISHNESS AND USE WHAT HE HAS GIVEN US IN WAYS THAT HONOR HIM.

A. Warning to the Rich v. 1-2
   - James writes this passage to _____ the wicked and _____ the believing.
     - He writes _____ the unbelieving that their judgement is imminent.
     - He writes _____ to the oppressed that God hears their prayers.
     - He writes _____ the believers that the love of money is the root of many evils.

"Disclaimer* - Wealth is an AMORAL subject - It has no morality until it becomes a god in place of God.

B. Evidence Against You v. 3
   - Wealth gives the _____ of security. However, it is _____ and _____ and has no benefit as we stand before God.
   - Their wealth does not save them. It will be evidence for_____ against them.

C. God Hears Their Cries v. 4
   - The wicked rich have committed fraud. They have withheld agreed upon payment from the workers. This is a _____ of the Levitical law.
   - The powerful may ignore the cries of those they exploit, but they _____ those cries from reaching the ears of God.
   - The God who commands angels will _____ the oppressed.

D. Your Fattened Heart v. 5-6
   - He says that they fattened themselves for day of judgment. They think that they are living on the fat of being blessed in business, but instead, they are being prepared for_____.
   - They grew fat on the wages they withheld from workers. They effectively grew fat as they _____ the help.

"Warning to us all." The problem is not wealth. The problem is a heart that finds its security in wealth not in walking with God.

Questions to think on:

1. If God were to examine the way we acquire, preserve, and use our resources, what would our money testify about our hearts?
2. Do we use the wealth God has entrusted us with to further His kingdom and to bless others?
3. In what ways might your perspective on wealth need to change in order to select the biblical principles in this passage?

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A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
I Will Call Upon The Lord
Holy Holy Holy
He Is Jehovah
God And God Alone

Sermon Notes

James 4:13-17
Pastor J Fischer
October 18, 2026

BIG IDEA: BECAUSE GOD IS SOVEREIGN AND LIFE IS UNCERTAIN, WE MUST MAKE OUR PLANS WITH HUMBLE DEPENDENCE UPON HIM

A. LIVING FOR SELF TODAY - v. 13

James is not condemning planning ahead. Rather, he is addressing the problem of living as though we are _____ of our own lives and circumstances. Instead of acknowledging God's _____ over our lives and submitting to His will, we begin to act as though_____. In doing so, we live according to our own plans and desires rather than in humble submission to God.

B. HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT TOMORROW BRINGS - v. 14

Our lives might have the _____ of control, but James wants us to understand that we are in control of so little. Our days are here today and _____ .

Job 14:1-2 - Man who is born of a woman is few of days and full of trouble. He comes out like a flower and withers; he flees like a shadow and continues not.

C. A SOVEREIGN GOD AND TIME - v. 15

- We plan _____ on God's will.
- We _____ our plans over to God.
- The job of the Christian is to first recognize that this _____ and then second to_____ ourselves before God. _____ ourselves to His plans and purposes.

D. SELF AS SIN - v. 17

- To know what is right and _____ = SIN
- To know what is wrong and _____ = SIN
- Sin is _____ or making _____ over God.

E. APPLICATION

1. Am I making plans with a willingness to submit them to God's will, or have I already decided what I want Him to do?
2. Does the way I live reflect an awareness of how brief and uncertain life is, or do I live as though I am in control of my future?
3. What plan, desire, or expectation do I need to surrender to God, and what do I already know He wants me to do?

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Good And Gracious King
Abide
How Deep The Father's Love For Us
Behold Our God

Sermon Notes

Who are you to judge? - James 4:11-12

Pastor J Fischer

October 11, 2026

Main Idea: Because God alone is the Judge, we must judge according to His Word without taking His place.

1. What Jesus taught about Judgment *Matthew 7:1-5*
   a. Be _____.
   b. Judge _____ first.
   c. God's Word as the _____ .
   d. Judge _____, not hearts.
   e. Judge with _____ .
   f. Seek _____.
2. One sentence standard
   a. We should judge others according to the clear teaching of God's Word, with _____ and _____, distinguishing biblical commands from personal preferences, judging _____ conduct rather than assumed motives, and seeking the person's _____ rather than our own vindication.
3. Unbiblical Judgement
   a. Unbiblical judgement makes _____ the standard rather than _____ . It places me _____ my brother rather than both of us living _____ that standard of God's word.
4. God's Judgment
   a. What is the standard by which we judge?_____
   b. Who gave that standard?_____
   c. Who has the authority to judge?_____
   d. My Judgement is more about how to love than to determine eternal destiny.
5. How I am to judge
   a. Examine _____ first.
   b. _____ God's Word.
   c. Responding with Word and Actions of _____.
   d. _____ God to use me to encourage others to draw closer to God.

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God So Loved
The Glories Of Calvary
Man Of Sorrows

Sermon Notes

The Battle for the Believer's Heart - James 4:1-10

Pastor J Fischer

September 27, 2026

Big Idea: Our sinful desires put us at war with others and pull us away from God, but God gives more grace when we humble ourselves, submit to Him, and draw near to Him.

I. **The Problem: The War within us** (1–4)
   a. **The Root:** Unfulfilled_____ waging war in our hearts.
   b. **The Threefold Pressure:**
      i. **The**_____: Our inherited sin nature that turns legitimate desires into ultimate demands.
      ii. **The** _____: A cultural system pushing us toward self-exaltation and friendship apart from God (Spiritual Adultery).
      iii. **The** _____: A defeated adversary who actively exploits our worldly lusts and internal cravings.

   The_____: Hate in the heart (murder), interpersonal division (fights/ quarrels), and selfish prayers.

II. **The Provision: The Grace Over Us** (5–6)
   a. **A** _____: God's righteous jealousy is not insecure; it is the protective love of a faithful husband who refuses to share His bride with the world.
   b. _____: God does not leave us in our failure. He counters our deep sin with more grace.

   _____: Pride rejects grace; humility receives it.

III. **The Path Forward: The Work Before Us** (7–10)
   a. _____: Yield your agenda to God's reign and actively resist Satan's lies.
   b. _____: Step into intimate communion with God through active spiritual habits (prayer, Word, gathering).
   c. _____: Feel the true weight of your sin (lament/godly sorrow), knowing that God's posture toward the brokenhearted is always restoration and exaltation.

   The _____: He will lift you up, He will restore us with His grace

IV. **Application**

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I Will Sing Of My Redeemer
O The Love Of My Redeemer
Heaven Came Down
There Is A Savior
O Church Arise

Sermon Notes

Pastor J Fischer
September 20, 2026

Show Me Your Wisdom;James 3:13-18

Big Idea: Big idea- True wisdom is demonstrated not merely by what we know, but by the way we live before God and others.

1. Who is Wise and Understanding? (13)
   - Knowledge_____
   - Understanding _____
   - Wisdom _____
   - Conduct _____
   - Meekness is: one who is gentle, humble, and controlled by the Spirit and the Word.
2. Worldly Wisdom (14-16)
   - Heart_____
   - Behavior _____
   - Source _____
   - Harvest_____
3. Wisdom from Above (17-18)
   - A heart that is wise with understanding will produce these good things, its origin is from heaven and the harvest of this heart is peace.
   - The fruit of a heart that responds to God in faith is a life that lives in order with God and Men
4. Application
   - Evaluating the Root: When you look at how you respond to daily frustrations or conflicts, do your actions reveal a heart driven by "worldly wisdom" or a heart that functions with wisdom from above?
   - Examining the Fruit: Look at the major relationships in your life (family, work, church). Am I currently producing a "harvest of peace" by being gentle and open to reason, or I am unintentionally causing disorder through jealousy or defensiveness?
   - Applying Heavenly Wisdom: What are some disciplines in my day to day walk with Jesus that I can implement or grow in, so that I am battling against earthly wisdom and growing in heavenly wisdom?

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Praise
Sing To The King
Be Thou My Vision

Sermon Notes

Taming The Tongue- James 3:1-12

Pastor J Fischer

August 30, 2026

Big Idea: The tongue reveals the heart, and only a transformed heart can transform the tongue.

1. Teachers will be judged for their words and works - v.1
   a. James warns that the honor of teaching also carries terrifying _____. Teachers will be judged for their_____.
   b. The teacher's words matter because people are influenced by both what teachers _____ and how they _____.
2. We all STUMBLE! - v.2
   a. Universal reality- we _____and in many ways!
   b. One of man's greatest stumbling blocks is his _____.
   c. The struggle of our words is ultimately a struggle of the _____.
3. Characteristics of the tongue
   a. Small members, great boasts - v.3-5
      - The tongue is a small organ that directs the whole_____
      - The tongue that boasts attempts to use words to create a _____that actions cannot _____.
   b. Powerful and Unruly - v.5-6
      - _____the whole person
      - Sets the world a _____
      - Set on fire by_____
   c. Untamable - v.7-8
      - Always on the verge of_____
4. Hypocritical lives and rhetorical questions - v.9-12
   a. James uses rhetorical questions to show us the_____ between our faith and our speech.
   b. Faith is not merely about controlling my tongue: it is about a _____ that brings the tongue under control.
5. Application
   a. When I examine the content of my words, what is it showing me about the condition of my heart?
   b. Am I trying just to control my tongue, or am I allowing the spirit to transform the heart from which my words flow? What is one thing I can do this week to work on the condition of my heart?
   c. Is there anyone that I might need to repent to for using unwise or profane words?

Good And Gracious King
Grace On Top Of Grace
Lord I Need You
Living Hope
Take My Life And Let It Be

Sermon Notes

Faith That Works- James 2:14-26

Pastor J Fischer

August 23, 2026

Big Idea: Faith is evidenced by our actions; a genuine relationship with Christ compels us to live out our faith through love and good works.

1. What is faith? (Hebrews 11:1)
   Assurance –

   Conviction-

   Hope-

   Faith believes God and lives like it!

2. Faith - works = dead faith (14-17)
   a. As the _____ alive man bears symptoms of life, the spiritually alive man will bear the works of _____ life. Matt. 7:15-20, Gal.5:22-24
   b. Works are necessary _____ of true faith.
   c. Biblical faith is not merely believing that something is true; it is trusting God in such a way that what I believe produces_____.

3. Works - Faith= Unrighteousness (18-19)
   a. Good works _____ save because it is impossible for our works to be _____ without faith in Christ.
   b. If a mere profession of faith is _____, then so is religious activity without _____.

4. Portraits of Working Faith (20-25)
   a. Abraham
      i. Abraham _____ and _____God even when what he was asked to do seemed impossible.
      ii. Abraham believed and _____ no portion of his life back from God.
   b. Rahab
      i. Rahab heard about Israel's God, believed and hid the spies. She was _____ saved because she hid the spies. Her actions demonstrated that her faith was_____.
      ii. Rahab _____ on what she believed about God.
      iii. Rahab shows us that it doesn't matter who you are. Genuine faith always_____.

5. Bringing it all together (26)
   a. Faith Believes God and lives like it!
   b. What evidences of Spiritual life do I see in my life?
   c. Is my faith something that I say, or is it something that governs my life?
   d. What would my life look like if I really believed what I say I believe?

There Is A Fountain
There Is A Redeemer
I'd Rather Have Jesus
I Pledge Allegiance To The Lamb
O Praise The Name

Sermon Notes

The Mercy That Changes Us!- James 2:1-13

Pastor J Fischer

August 16, 2026

Big Idea: Those who have been given great mercy must become those who show great mercy!

1. Sin exposed *(1-4)*
   - Partiality is judging a person based upon their _____ appearance rather than by truth or character
   - Partiality doesn't just misjudge people; it reveals a lack of trust in God's _____ of people.
   - Partiality isn't just bad manners; it is a heart issue that _____ the gospel.
2. The Irony of It All *(5-7)*

James is saying:

- The poor may be _____.
- The rich may be the very _____.
- The rich may be _____.
- And yet the church is still saying, "sir, please _____.

3. Fulfilling The Law *(8-11)*

We cannot be partial and still _____ our neighbors. The _____ of partiality is a _____.

If we lack love for our neighbors, can we truly say that we _____?

A person showing partiality _____. He shows favoritism so that he might _____. He gives the better seat so that he might _____.

4. MERCY IS:

Mercy in how you _____ people

Mercy in how you _____ to people

Mercy is how you treat people who have nothing to offer you

Mercy is a _____ of the gospel that has been given to you!

Personal Application & Reflection

CONFRONTING OURSELVES

How might you show partiality?

Who gets your attention at church?

Who gets overlooked?

Who do you instinctively move toward vs. avoid?

Come Unto Jesus
Jesus Strong And Kind
Blessed Be Your Name

Sermon Notes

Don't Just Hear It…Do It!- *James 1:22-27*
Pastor J Fischer
August 2, 2026

Big Idea: The true measure of our faith is not what we hear but how we respond to God's Word.

1. Deceiving Yourself- Hearing Without Doing (v. 22)

- Obedience to the Word is the _____requirement for all true believers.
- Deception _____ us into believing something is true when it isn't. When we hear and don't obey, we deceive ourselves to believe _____ _____.
- The mark of a true believer is not perfect obedience, but a growing desire to _____.

2. Seeing and Forgetting (vv. 23–24)

- God's Word is a mirror, a ultimate truth-teller. It reflects _____ not who we think we are.
- The Foolish Progression:
  - Hears the Word.
  - Sees what God reveals about his _____.
  - Walks away _____ (rejects exposed reality)
  - Forgets what God _____ him.

3. Blessed in Doing (v. 25)

- The Formula of Blessing- _____+_____ = Blessing

- How God Blesses the Doer:
  - His Favor: We please God and enjoy His presence.
  - Maturity: We grow spiritually and produce lasting fruit.
  - Future Reward: We receive eternal blessings.

4. Get to Work (v. 26–27)

- Minding
  - Mind your_____
  - _____ from the world.
- Care for others
  - Care for those who cannot care for themselves

Personal Application & Reflection

1. Mirror Check: What has God's Word revealed about your heart or habits recently that you have been tempted to ignore or forget?
2. Tongue & Conduct: Is there a gap between what you profess on Sunday and how you speak or live during the week?
3. One Action Step: What is one specific area of Scripture where you need to move from being a "hearer only" to a "doer who acts" this week?

Before The Throne Of God Above
Jesus Thank You
How Deep The Father's Love For Us

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Sermon Notes

Humbly Receiving and Responding to the Word of God- *James 1:19-21*
Pastor J Fischer
July 26, 2026

Big Idea: Saving faith is demonstrated by a _____ heart that eagerly _____ and _____ God's Word.

1. Backward response to trials *19*

   Quick to _____ instead of quick to _____

   Slow to _____ instead of quick to _____

   Slow to _____ instead of slow to _____

   It is better to remain silent and thought a fool than to speak and remove the doubt!

2. A worldly response can never produce Godly righteousness. *20*

3. Continued progress amid trials. *21*
   a. Put on _____
   b. Put off_____
      i. Filthiness is……..
   c. Put on the Word of God.
      i. What does this look like in my present circumstance?

4. Faith at work in this passage is

   Making our _____ with others righteous instead of worldly.
   Ask the Spirit to convict your heart as to what areas in you need to change.

5. Putting on _____ and _____ anger and filthiness.
   b. What places in my life might I need to clean out the filthiness?
   c. What places in my life could use some more meekness?

6. _____ myself in the Word of God
   a. What plan do you have to be regularly reading and meditating on the Word of God?

Be Unto Your Name
Holy Holy Holy Is The Lord Of Hosts
Center Of My Joy
I Will Praise Him
Tell Me The Old Old Story

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Sermon Notes

Avoiding the Pit Falls in Suffering - James 1:9-18

Pastor J Fischer

July 19, 2026

Big Idea: Trials what we _____, what we _____ and what we _____ about God.

1. Trusting worldly things over Christ *9-11*
   Suffering God's way gives us a platform to _____ in Christ.

   In what ways do I trust worldly things instead of Christ when I face trials and temptations?

2. Temptation to Blame *12-14*
   Suffering God's way comes with _____.

   What might I need to remind myself of when I blame God for my temptation to sin in the midst of trials?

3. Blind to see what God is doing! *16-18*
   Suffering God's way acknowledges His _____ in all things including our suffering and development.

   What heart posture might need to change for me to see my trials as a gift from God instead of punishment?

4. Tying it together!

- Suffering God's way gives us a platform to boast in Christ.
- Suffering God's way comes with great gain.
- Suffering God's way acknowledges His sovereignty in all things including our suffering and development.

Suffering God's way means trusting God's_____, enduring by _____, and _____ His goodness.

Come Thou Fount
Abide
The Glories Of Calvary
Hallelujah For The Cross

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Sermon Notes

Finding Joy in Struggle - James 1:1-12
Pastor J Fischer
July 12, 2026

Big Idea: God uses trials to produce mature, steadfast believers who trust Him joyfully and receive the crown of life.

I. Joy in the Struggle (vv. 2–4)

"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds..." — v. 2

Trials may come as:

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Biblical Joy: A deep confidence in God's goodness that remains even when life is hard.

II. What God Produces

James teaches that trials produce:

- ☐ _____(Endurance)
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ Spiritual Sufficiency ("Lacking nothing")

Key Scriptures:
Romans 5:3–5; Romans 8:28; 2 Corinthians 4:16–18

III. Our Response vs. What to Avoid

✓ How Should We Respond?

- Count it Joy
- Ask God for _____
- _____God Without Doubting
- _____ in Faith

✗ What Should We Avoid?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

IV. God's Promise (v. 12)

"Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial..."

God Rewards Faithful Endurance:

- ☐ Greater _____
- ☐ Stronger _____
- ☐ Eternal Reward — The Crown of Life

V. Take It Home

1. What trial is God using to grow you right now?

2. How can you respond in faith this week?

How Can I Keep From Singing
All Creatures Of Our God And King
Saved My Soul
O Praise The Name

