

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- #1. How have financial fires affected you emotionally and spiritually?
- #2. What is going on with most people in America regarding their finances?
- #2. List the reason(s) why James considers the poor believer to be in a high position that he should take pride in?
- #2. How do you think James' poor readers reacted to this?
- #3. List the reason(s) why James considers the rich believer to be in a low position that he should take pride in?
- #4. How do you think James' rich readers reacted to this?
- #5. How is the above different than the world's value system?
- #6. What is the definition of a steward?
- #7. How do poor people tend to view rich people?
- #7. How should a Christian view his/her resources which include: money, possessions, talents, time, temple (the body), teammates?
- #6. Do you feel it is wrong to serve God because of the rewards you will receive? Why or why not? In Matthew 6:1-18 Jesus mentions rewards 7 times.
- #10. What is your takeaway from this passage?

Welcome To Hillcrest Church!

GIVING GOD OUR BEST – 2021!

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

James 1:12

October 10, 2021
Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD

IN THE FIRE – PART II “Coping With Financial Fires” James 1:9-12

One of the common trials that people face is financial hardship. In America, many people find themselves with little money in the bank, high credit card debt, car payments, and are struggling to make ends meet. When money is tight it can cause a lot of stress. The people James was writing to were experiencing financial fires so he offered them advice on how they can better cope with their situation. If you are going through a financial fire James has some great counsel for you! He offers a different perspective, a Kingdom perspective, on money that stands in stark contrast to what the world tells you.

#1. POOR BELIEVERS OCCUPY A _____ IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD, v. 9

- A. The poor brother lives in humble circumstances
- B. He is in a high position in the Kingdom of God
- C. He should be proud of his position, 2:5
- D. James has inverted the world’s value system

THE POOR BELIEVER

The World’s View

The poor -- low position
Nothing to be proud of

James’ Kingdom View

The poor -- a high position
Something to be proud of

#2. RICH BELIEVERS OCCUPY A _____ IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD, vv. 10-11

- A. The rich brother is in a low position
- B. The rich brother should be proud of his position
- C. James has reversed the world’s value system
- D. The rich will pass away, v. 10, (Isa 40:6-8)
- E. The rich man can’t control his destiny, v. 11

THE RICH BELIEVER

The World’s View

The rich – high position
Something to be proud of

James’ Kingdom View

The rich – a low position
Something to be proud of

- ### #3. RICH AND POOR BELIEVERS BOTH _____, vv. 9-12
- A. Trials are common to all people regardless of economic status
 - B. There is a tendency of poor people to envy the rich
 - C. The tendency of the poor to think the rich are always fulfilled
 - D. The tendency of the rich to look down on the poor

#4. RICH AND POOR BELIEVERS MUST BE _____ OF EVERYTHING THAT GOD HAS GIVEN THEM

- A. Everything we have is God’s
- B. Everything we have is entrusted to us by God
- C. Everyone must put God above money, Mat 6:24
- D. Everyone must beware of greed, hoarding, & idolatry

#5. RECEIVING THE CROWN OF LIFE IS _____ TO ENDURE TRIALS, v. 12

- A. Blessed are those who endure
- B. The testing of faith has been accomplished
- C. The crown (*stephanos*) of life, Rev 2:10
- D. God’s promise to those who love him
- E. Crowns are awarded at the Judgment Seat of Christ, (2 Cor 5:10)

#6. AN EXCURSES: THE FIVE CROWNS


- A. The crown of Life, Rev 2:10
- B. The crown of glory, 1 Pet 5:4
- C. The crown of joy, 1 Thess 2:19
- D. The crown imperishable, 1 Cor 9:25
- E. The crown of righteousness, 2 Tim 4:8
- F. They cast their crowns before him, Rev 4:10

NOTES:

ANSWERS: High Position, Low Position, Have Trials, Wise Stewards, Incentive.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN US ONLINE FOR

Tuesday Bible study at 6:30, Wednesday study & Prayer at 6:30.  Click the "online meeting room" link on the home page of the website Hillcrestroseville.com

PASTOR CHARLES

Sends us his love and appreciation for giving to his ministry in Uganda.

YOGA FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Pastor Bruce is a certified Yoga instructor and will be offering a class every Saturday at 10:00 and another class during the week. Bring a friend. Time to be announced

FACILITY TRANSFORMATION

The facility keeps looking better and better. Notice new sconces have been added which have brightened up the place considerably. New lights have been installed in the entrance area and the sanctuary painting is completed, except for the stage. Thanks to Keith for installing all the lights. Great Work!

HELP WITH MEDIA

If you would like to help with the sound system and/or media please let Aaron, Johanna, or DJ know and we can train you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there, or you can visit our website and give online (hillcrestroseville.com). Thank you for supporting the gospel ministry of Hillcrest Church.