



Guide

8/23 - James 1:12-18

LOVE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love *one another*... (John 13:34)

- *Internal*: How was your week? Any new life updates? How was your walk with the Lord this week?
- *External*: Practically, is there any individual or family that needs encouragement from us as a group?

TRUTH

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing *one another*... (Col. 3:16)

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?
2. Let's read our primary text. This text is quite mysterious in its word choice (i.e. crown of life, giving birth to sin, Father of lights, no shadows due to change, firstfruits of his creatures, etc.). How does this text shape your view of God?
3. Why does James say "blessed" rather than promising the trial will be pleasant?
4. In verse 13, what wrong claim does James anticipate someone making, and why does he rule it out?
5. According to verse 14, where does temptation actually come from?
6. Trace the progression James describes in verse 15 (desire → sin → death). Why does he describe it using birth imagery? Have you seen this "play out" in someone you know?
7. At its essence, is desire a negative thing?
8. Practically, how can Christian's like you and I shift our misguided desires into God-honoring desires?
9. What does verse 18 say God has done for believers, and how does the term "firstfruits" describe their identity?
10. Any other thoughts you would like to share before we wrap up this text?

GREAT COMMISSION

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)

- *Internal*: Did you make time to disciple your family this week? Pray with them?
- *External*: Is your life marked by joy/contentment? Are you prepared to share the gospel if the Holy Spirit prompted? Is the name of Jesus on your lips in your day-to-day activity?

CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

But exhort *one another* every day, as long as it is called "today," ... (Heb. 3:12-14)

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Is there anything you want to confess before the group, generally? [*apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy*]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply His word to our lives, putting to death sinful desires.