



Redeeming Notes

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August 8, 2004

Living Out A Faith That Works
"Moving Beyond Arrogant Confidence"
James 4:11-17

vv. 11-12 speaks of the critical spirit
vv. 13-17 speaks of arrogant confidence

I. A critical spirit (vv. 11-12)

- "speak evil of" or "slander" may best be translated **disparage**
- "judge" has the meaning of **find fault with**

We are to judge

- A. **content** not the **person**
- B. **behavior** not the **person**

We are not to

- C. have a mentality of **fault finding**
- D. exempt ourselves of **analysis and criticism**

II. Arrogant confidence (vv. 13-17)

- The **uncertainty** of life (v. 14a)
 - The **transcience** of life (v. 14b)
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READING PLAN: *Meditate deeply on these connections from this week's teaching, asking yourself: 1) What does it say in general? 2) What is it directly saying to me? 3) How can I apply it in my life?*

Monday – James 4:11-17

Tuesday – Matthew 7:1-5

Wednesday – I Thessalonians 5:16-24

Thursday – Psalm 103

Friday – Psalm 90

FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

- 1) Is it okay to speak against someone as long as we are sure it is the truth?
- 2) What do you think you should do if someone disparages another in your presence?
- 3) Is it always wrong to make plans for the future? If so, why? If not, what kinds of planning are wrong, and what kinds are all right?
- 4) What plans for the future are you living by? Have you taken into account the brevity of your life and God's right to direct your plans?