



## **Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions**

Topic: *Plans and Flexibility*

Text: James 4:13-17

Service Date: June 2, 2024

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

### **Getting Started**

- Have you ever had a time in your life where you made plans but had to change them last minute? What was your response?
- Do you tend to be more of a planner or spur of the moment type of person?

### **Sermon Discussion**

- How do you balance plans and flexibility?
- “Planning is good but remember ultimately there is God.” Has there been a time in your life when you’ve planned out something important to you, but God had different plans? What was your initial reaction?
- We are reminded that Jesus performed miracles because of being interrupted: turning gallons of water into wine, calming the storm when being woken up from a nap, healing a man who was lowered through the rough as it interrupted his teaching. Has there been a moment of interruption in your life/plan that God has used for good?
- Proverbs 3:5-6 says, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him and he will make your paths straight.” What other Bible passages have offered you peace when your plans require flexibility?
- The Apostle Paul had a time when God closed a door to a plan he had made (Acts 16:6-7). What would have been your reaction to God shutting the door? Have you ever had God redirect your plans?

- Paul noted in the sermon, “Try to see interruptions as opportunities that may be greater than the plan you had scheduled.” What type of opportunities do you think God can provide through interruptions?
- We are cautioned that not all changes in plans are God’s calling in our life due to the sin of the world and our own sin. What can we do to determine if interruptions or changes are of God’s will or of Satan’s?
- James 4:14 says, “Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.” How does this help put your ideas of planning into perspective?
- Has God ever opened an unexpected door for you to share or live out your faith?

## **Resources**

Book: *Choosing to Cheat* by Andy Stanley

## **Have you or someone in your group experienced a Story of Life Change?**

We’d love to hear about it! In fact, one of Tri-Village’s values is “Stories of Life Change”. Visit [tri-village.org/yourstory](http://tri-village.org/yourstory) and share how God worked.