

PREACHING CURRICULUM

A Sacred View of Human Nature

James 4:1-10

'...in the moment of abject surrender to Christ, through Christ, it becomes possible to move beyond being simply 'good' to the greater truth and encouragement of being forgiven...'

1 REVIEW THE SERMON

LEADER NOTES: Encourage your members to pull out their notes and review the main points of the sermon. (9-12 mins)

What is "secularism"?

How is secularism the opposite of Christianity in its approach to truth?

What is a worldview? What is a secular worldview? What is a Christian worldview? What is the difference?

2 ASSESS YOUR LIFE

LEADER NOTES: Evaluate the condition of your lives in relation to the truth from God's Word. Encourage heart examination. (12-15 mins)

Do you recognize your sinfulness? Why is it sin when you try to do something independent of God (in your own power)? What do you do when that independence from God (sin) tries to take over?

Have you considered just how deeply you are affected (infected) with a love of this world and its 'things'? Can you recognize the lies of secularism, and who the father of those lies is? What are some of the lies that we so easily slip into believing?

How is God calling you to be more dependent on Him?

Are you encouraged that God still desires a relationship with us despite our fallen nature? Have you submitted to His benevolent rule? How do you draw close to Him in humble submission?

3 APPLY THE TRUTH

LEADER NOTES: Create a list of ways to close the gap between your lives and the truth of the Bible. Be practical and intentional. (12-15 mins)

Why are we as humans so often failures? Why can't human 'solutions' really fix the problems?

What is so destructive about the lie that we are 'good'?

What does it mean that "to be forgiven is to be better than good"?

How does the gospel fix not only what is broken, but also our breakability (that is the continual breaking down because we are not good)?

4 COMMIT THIS WEEK

LEADER NOTES: Call your small group members to make a commitment and get the group working together to follow-up with each other. (9-12)

How will you humble yourself before the Lord fresh this week, so that He can lift you up?