

# Getting Clarity in an Unclear World

## Living Free and Seeing Clearly

### James 1:19-27

#### CONNECT:

What is one way God has shown His goodness to you in the past week?

#### PREPARE

- Trials often cause things to become cloudy. What have you been needing clarity through God's word in recently?
- Getting clarity requires us to see ourselves clearly and God clearly. Do you tend to see one more clearly than the other?
- James is not necessarily a "feel good" book. It's meant to be a wake up call of sorts to believers.

#### STUDY AND DISCUSS:

- Using the sermon illustration of the maps, lacking clarity leads to speculation and speculation leads to uncertainties. Discuss an example of that in your life recently.
- There is a lot going on the world that would make us want to escape or ignore it and just gain encouragement and comfort. How can that lack of clarity bring fear and not freedom and do you think James is telling us that or not?
- Read James 1:19-27. What do these various issues: speaking and listening, anger, morals and evil, and taking care of orphans and widows have in common?
- Read Ephesians 4:26. How can we differentiate between righteous anger and anger that leads us into sin?
- How do you see God's word being like a mirror in your life? The law of liberty is God's word that can bring about freedom, especially in seeing things in our own hearts that need to take action.

## Community Group Discussion Questions

- This chapter in James ends with caring for widows and orphans. God cares deeply for those who are in need, and most vulnerable. What are your thoughts on the statistics that Compassion International did on global poverty? [\$74 billion/year is needed to end global poverty; American churchgoers earn \$5.2 trillion/year; 74 billion is roughly 1% of \$5.2 trillion]
- Read James 2:14-20 and 4:8-10. Both of these passages feel like OT prophets or judgement oracles. James is a call to Christians to take action, but more importantly to repent.
- Discuss your thoughts on the American church being “sifted” right now as in the example of wheat being sifted?

### RESPONSE:

What is one way you can turn your focus off of the “evil world out there” and turn it inward to your own heart, by looking in the mirror?

### PRAY

Lord, revival doesn't come without repentance. We thank you for your Word that tells us that it's your kindness that leads us to repentance. Thank you for your faithfulness to make us aware of our need for repentance, your kindness that leads us to repentance, and your righteousness that demands our repentance.