

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

James 5:1-6

For Starting

- Have you ever won a trophy or a medal? Give details.
- Did you ever lock your car keys in the car? What happened?
- If money was not a problem, what would you do every day if you didn't work?
- What ONE, one-sentence prayer do you always pray? Why?
- What picture/image came to mind with this Bible passage?

For Reviewing

- Why does James warn the rich to "weep and wail" (v.1)?
- What does James say will happen to riches (v.2-3a)?
- What are the sinful ways the rich use their wealth (v.3c-4a)?
- Who will hear the cries from the defrauded workmen (v.4b)?
- Compare James 5:5 with the prophecy in Jeremiah 12:3.
When will these events take place?
- How were the rich sinfully treating the innocent (v.6)? How do you think they were able to do this?

For Discussion

- What does Jesus mean when He said to lay up treasures in heaven? See Matthew 6:19-24.
- Does James condemn all rich people? Explain.
- How will the wealth of rich people testify against them in the last judgement?
- What is the proper Christian approach to wealth? How do Christians benefit from approaching wealth in this way?
- "*God is the Owner of everything, and we are His stewards.*" Do you agree/disagree? What consequences follow this statement?
- Why is it easier for Christians to hoard wealth, rather than to give and wait on God? How can you avoid this pitfall?
- You could end by reading together James 5:4c.
(See highlighted text over-page)

James 5:1-6 (NIVUK)

Warning to rich oppressors

¹ Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you. ² Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. ³ Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. ⁴ Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you.

The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. ⁵ You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned and murdered innocent men, who were not opposing you.