



There Is Always Hope!
February 11, 2024 – James 5:19-20
Pastor Jon Pickens

The Principles of this Passage

1. There is **hope** for the wanderer.
2. There is plenty of **motivation** for Christians to engage the wanderer.
 - a. Motivation #1: There is a **soul** at stake!
 - b. Motivation #2: The truth of the Gospel has the power to **deliver** a soul from death.
 - c. Motivation #3: You are never too far gone to be **forgiven**.

Implications of this Passage

1. Proclaiming the truth of the Gospel **matters** even when we have given up.
2. Giving up on a person's soul discounts the **divine** working of the Gospel.
3. The church needs an army of those who care enough about the souls of our fellow brothers and sisters to **engage** them!
 - a. What does healthy engagement look like:
 - i. Be **available**.
 - ii. Be genuinely **curious** and humble.
 - iii. Ask genuine questions that help peel back the **underlying** issues.
 - iv. Pray **for** them and **with** them.
 - v. Be a voice of truth in **love**.
 - vi. Give them **space** to process your conversations.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is passive Christianity detrimental to the church body?
2. What are some of the reasons we tend not to ask questions about someone's faith journey?
3. What motivation do believers have to engage in the spiritual lives of our fellow brothers and sisters?
4. What challenge or barrier do you need to get over so that you become more engaged in the faith journey of your fellow brothers or sisters in Christ?
5. Pastor Jon talked about what healthy engagement looks like. Did any of those resonate with you? Do you have anything additional to add to that list?
6. What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?

Next Steps:

1. If you would like to become a follower of Jesus, please let us know. Pastor Jon will be down front after the service and would love to connect.
2. If you are interested in baptism, let Pastor Jon know in person or email him at pj@fbclowell.org.
3. Read the Bible with us to know God and respond to Him! Below is our current schedule.

February 2024			
Week 1 Starting Feb 5	Week 2 Starting Feb 12	Week 3 Starting Feb 19	Week 4 Starting Feb 26
Day 1: Psalm 56, 57	Day 1: Psalm 67, 68	Day 1: Psalm 76, 77	Day 1: Psalm 85, 86
Day 2: Psalm 58, 59	Day 2: Psalm 69	Day 2: Psalm 78	Day 2: Psalm 87, 88
Day 3: Psalm 60-62	Day 3: Psalm 70, 71	Day 3: Psalm 79, 80	Day 3: Psalm 89
Day 4: Psalm 63, 64	Day 4: Psalm 72, 73	Day 4: Psalm 81, 82	Day 4: Psalm 90, 91
Day 5: Psalm 65, 66	Day 5: Psalm 74, 75	Day 5: Psalm 83, 84	Day 5: Psalm 92-94
⁵ Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.			
⁶ He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them— he remains faithful forever.			
Psalm 146:5-6 (NIV)			

What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?