



# Sermon Discussion Guide

July 27, 2025 | James 5:19-20 | Brad

## **SUMMARY**

*Big Idea:* Join God's Rescue Mission

As the concluding two verses of this letter, James does two things. First, he wraps up the mini-section of 5:13-20, calling us to mutual care. Secondly, James elevates our sights to what has been his own overarching goal of his letter. James writes this entire letter as one big effort to "bring back the wanderers." What is notable is that as James turns to us and invites us into the work he has been doing - that of rescuing the wanderers - it is a call that connects with what has been the mission of God since the beginning of time - to seek out lost and wayward sinners, to bring them back to himself, for his name's sake. God begins this mission in Genesis 3, when after the Fall, he pursued with a question, "Adam, where are you?" In other words, Adam, where have you wandered? You must have faith that works, James says, and faith that works, joins God in His work of seeking and saving the lost.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **Intro**

1. When was the last time you lost something valuable to you? (keys, phone, wallet, child?)
  - a. What effect did this have on you? Describe what this looked like - emotions, thoughts, actions taken, etc..

### **Read James 5:19-20**

2. What would you say is James' main point? How do you know?
  - a. How do these verses relate to the previous verses, 5:13-18?
3. What does it mean to "wander"? How does James help us understand what he has in mind?
4. In response to those who wander, what actions does James call us to? List them out.
  - a. Are these actions you typically associate with you being able to do? Or actions that only God can do?
  - b. What point is James getting at by attributing these actions to us?
5. How does this call relate to the overall message of James, and what it means for you to have a "faith that works"?
6. Where would you say you are prone to wander?
  - a. Can you agree that today you are in need of more rescuing grace than any day before? Why or why not?
7. What does it mean and look like for you this week to join God's rescue mission?
  - a. What obstacles do you foresee that would hinder this?
8. What is your reaction to the following 3-part series of questions:
  - a. Do you know one another well enough to know where rescue is needed?
  - b. If you know, do you care?
  - c. If you care, will you go?