

Review:

Lesson 1: Faith & Adversity

Lesson 2: Faith & Temptations

Lesson 3: Faith & God's Word

Lesson 4: Faith & Equality

Lesson 5: Faith & Works

Lesson 6: Faith & Speech

Lesson 7: Faith & Wisdom

Lesson 8: Faith & Submission

Lesson 9: Faith & Planning

Lesson 10: Faith & Prosperity

Lesson 11: Faith & Perseverance

Lesson 12: Faith & Speech (Pt. 2)

Faith and Community

James 5:19-20

Following Christ is necessarily a community endeavor. There is spiritual safety in community. When we pull away (physically or emotionally) from community, we do so at great spiritual _____.

Discussion 1. There is spiritual safety in community with other believers, but it is also true that those other believers can sometimes behave badly and be hurtful. What kinds of things help you rightly balance these two realities? Have you ever experienced the spiritual danger of being outside of any Christian community?

The way scripture discusses Christian accountability, confronting a brother/sister about rebellious choices is rarely about correction and never about punishment; it is about the _____ of that brother/sister.

Discussion 2. If the only valid motive for confronting a Christian brother or sister is love for that brother/sister, then how do you check your heart to make sure you are rightly motivated?

The scriptural approach to Christian accountability is most effective when we are intentional about giving our friends _____ to confront us when we are making poor decisions.

Discussion 3. Describe the qualities and characteristics of a friend (or friends) you would bring around you to confront you if you were making bad spiritual decisions.

Like a virus in a computer network, sin in the church presents spiritual consequences we probably cannot even see. Christian accountability, then, benefits more than just the individual sinner...it benefits the _____.

Discussion 4. If the spiritual connection between our secret sins and the church's well-being were more visible, do you think it would change our attitudes toward our sin? Why or why not?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?