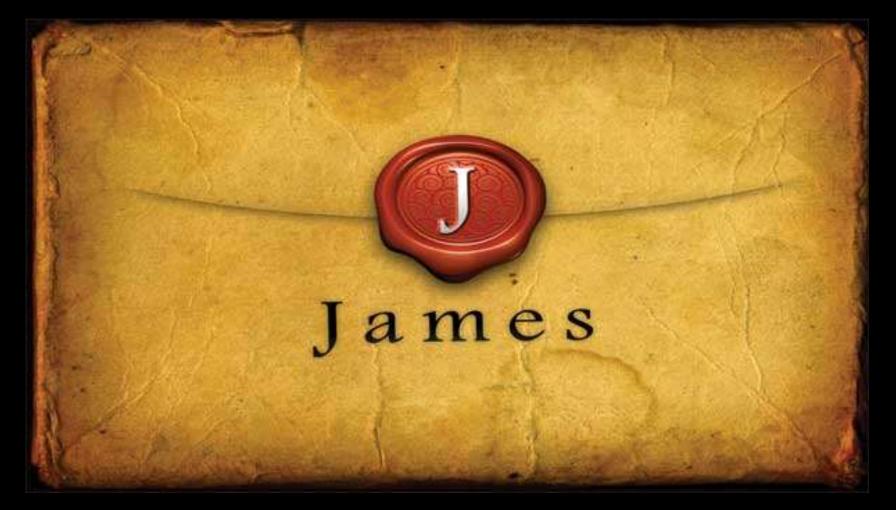
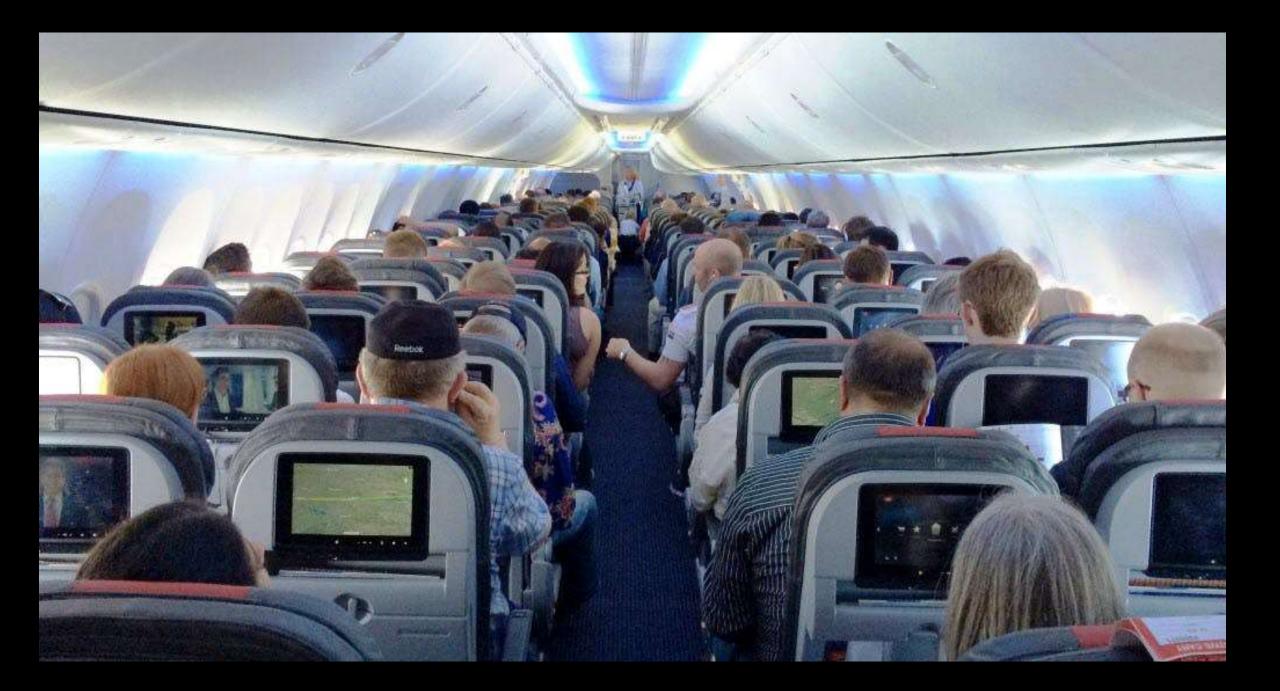




#### Fall Series:



The practice of practical faith





## How do I get up there?



## How do I get up there?

## Here \$

## → Not down there!

## How do I get up there? Stress $\rightarrow$ Here \$ Exhaustion → Not down there!

#### The Good News:

The Good News:

This short life is not about how much you own, or how little you own, but being a good steward with what God owns.

## James on Stewardship

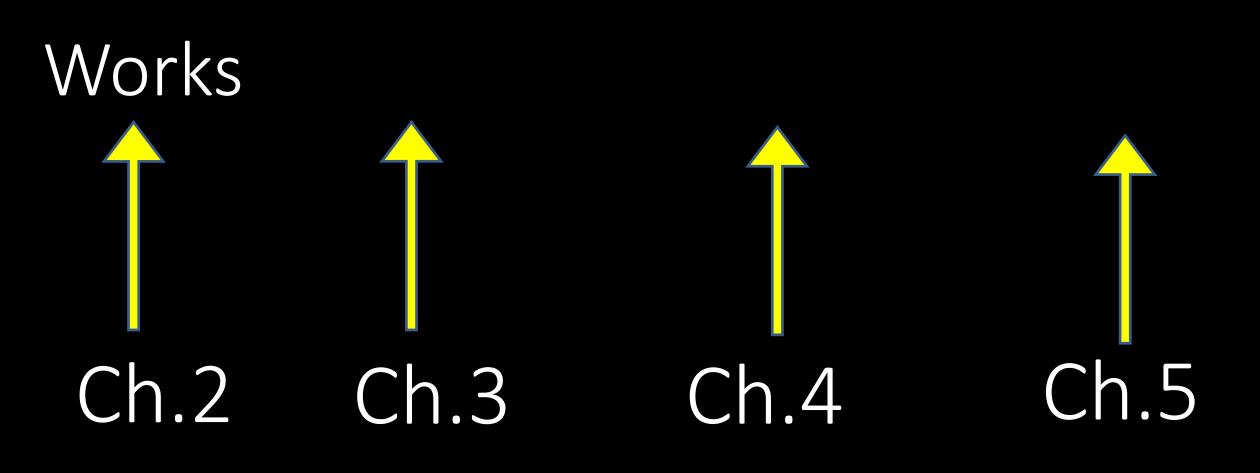
## James on Stewardship

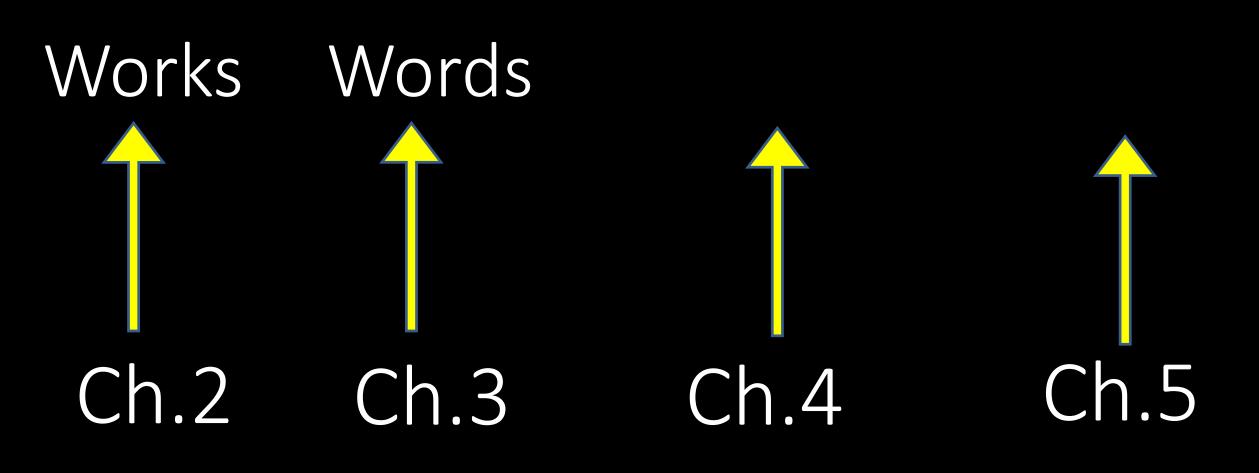
How your short time on earth can matter much in eternity.

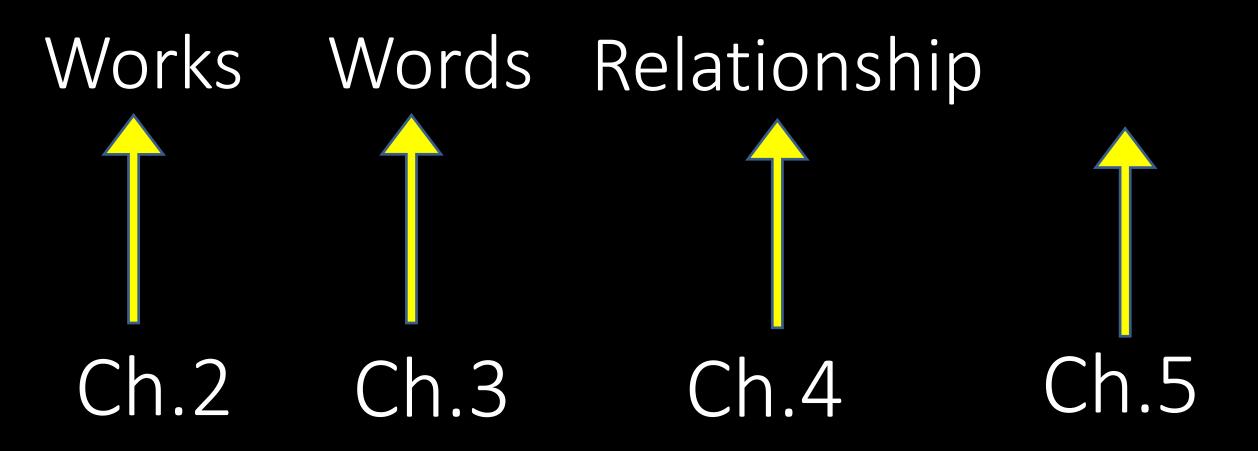
# Stewardship:

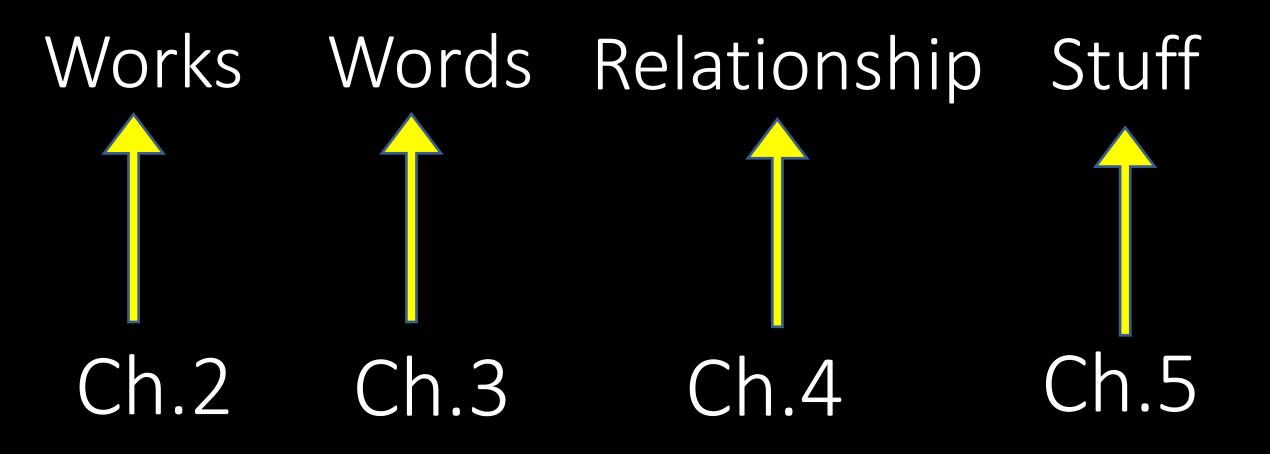
The responsibility of supervising or taking care of something that belongs to another for the sake of fulfilling a purpose.











#### The Need:

#### The Need:

How a Christian uses and views their "Stuff" accurately reflects the inner transformation that God has done by the Spirit.

### The Big idea:

#### The Big idea:

## No matter who you are, this life is short and every moment is to be seen as a stewardship moment.

#### who James is talking to:

who James is talking to:

## Godly Poor

## Ungodly Poor

## Godly Rich

Ungodly Rich

### 1. Life is short: Know and do the will of God.

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2. Wealth can be blinding and selfdestructive in its power.

1. Life is short: Know and do the will of God.

2. Wealth can be blinding and selfdestructive in its power.

3. Suffering can deceive one to believe God can't be trusted.

#### The Big idea:

## No matter who you are, this life is short and every moment is to be seen as a stewardship moment.

#### Two Stewardship Questions:

Two Stewardship Questions:

## What does stewardship mean?

## What steps can I take?

### What does stewardship mean?

### What does stewardship mean?

God is the creator of all things, and he is the owner of all things. "The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters."

Ps.24:1

"For every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it." Ps. 50: 10-12

"Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given to you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service, you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already."

C.S.Lewis

#### What does it mean?

#### What does it mean?

God the owner created mankind to steward his creation for the fulfillment of God's purposes. The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. <sub>Gen: 2:15</sub> Again, the kingdom will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them.

Matt. 25:14

"they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence."

Rev. 7:15

Although God gives us "all things richly to enjoy," nothing is ours. Nothing really belongs to us. God owns everything; we're responsible for how we treat it and what we do with it. While we complain about our rights here on earth, the Bible constantly asks, What about your responsibilities? Owners have rights; stewards have responsibilities. Hugh Whelchel

#### What does it mean?

#### What does it mean?

As Stewards we will have to give an account for all that God has entrusted to us. "So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'" Luke 19:13 Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'" Luke 19: 17

#### The Big idea:

# No matter who you are, this life is short and every moment is to be seen as a stewardship moment.

Stewards act differently than owners because they think differently– like stewards not owners.

Firmly believe that the most joy in this life and the next is found in being a steward, not an owner.



Firmly believe that your value and security as a person comes through the cross of Christ, not your stuff.

## Live for the line not the dot.

# Live for the line not the dot.

Ask the Question: What has God entrusted to me, and how can I invest those to the fulfillment of his purposes?

# Imagine

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'" Matthew 25:23

#### The Big idea:

#### The Big idea:

# No matter who you are, this life is short and every moment is to be seen as a stewardship moment.