

Small Group Discussion Questions

Following the Weekend of May 4-5, 2024

No need to answer every question. Feel free to jump around.

Our Ultimate Allegiance

(James 3:13-18)

Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud together James 3:13-18.

What words, phrases, concepts, or images from these verses stand out to you as you just read them, or create a curiosity for you in some way?

What aspects of Alan's message gave you fresh insight into this passage, or helped you the most in understanding these verses and what we experience here?

How are you feeling as we wade into this new sermon series? Anticipation? Trepidation? Excitement? Elaborate why you feel the way you do.

Pastor Alan shared how it can be easy to respond to the current political climate with either anger or avoidance. If you can relate to either response, share what this looks like for you.

And if you do relate to either of these responses, how do you feel about responding in this way?

James tells us that Godly wisdom is "pure" (James 3:17) and Pastor Alan describes this "purity" as alignment with God's heart and values.

How aligned with God's heart and values do you feel at the moment?

What factors either help or hurt you in this potential alignment?

In helping evaluate our heart postures, Pastor Alan suggested we contemplate the following question, “Who has our ultimate allegiance and loyalty?”

Who or what do you typically find yourself giving ultimate allegiance to (God, a political party, an organization, your job, your family, etc.)?

What evidence in your life either supports or conflicts with what you just shared?

Jesus challenged his listeners to reorient their heart’s allegiance. (Matthew 4:17)

If you feel due for a reorientation of where you place your ultimate allegiance, what steps could you take?

Pastor Alan stated that, “Jesus’ primary vehicle for advancing His kingdom and transforming a society is not government. It is the church.”

How does this statement make you feel?

Pastor Alan shared the following quote - “There’s a tendency in fallen human beings to take secondary identities that are important and make them ultimate.”

If you can identify with falling victim to the above tendency, share what this looks like for you.

What could it look like as the church to more fully embrace the reality that our ultimate citizenship is in heaven? (Philippians 3:20)

Conclude by praying for one another in taking practical next steps in applying this weekend’s message and group discussion, after which pray for group needs and concerns.

Messages are available in audio or video on our App or at cccgreeley.org.