**Faith Does Week ten**

**Faith Trusts**

**Study Questions:**

1. Context: James has been talking about humility as a posture that pleases God. Summarise why our posture toward God is important.
2. Initial reflection: Is it wrong to make future plans? If so, why? If not, what kinds of planning are wrong and what are, okay?
3. James uses two concepts to frame our thinking. Explain what each of these conveys and why he why he might be using them:
   1. Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow.
   2. You are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes (c.f. Ps 90:12)
4. Why does James tell us to preface our plans by saying “If the Lord wills…”?
5. How can we know if God wills something in our life or not? Can we know the will of God for certain? Explain your answer.
6. James talks about “arrogant schemes”? How would you define this given James discussion about pride and boasting?
7. The Bible commends planning in other places (Luke 14:28-32, Prov 15:22, 21:5). Is this contradictory?
8. What would a humble attitude look like toward future plans? Practically, how would I know if I had my attitude right?
9. Read Matthew 6:25-34. How is James leveraging off Jesus teaching?
10. The example James uses specifically refers to “business.” How could this principle be applied in a business?
11. How does 4:17 complete the idea conveyed in 4:13-16? Contextually, what is “the good” that someone might fail to do?

**James 4 ESV** **13**Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” **14**Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. **15**Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.” **16**As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. **17**If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn’t do it, it is sin for them.

SWEDISH Method

