

**Series Sermon-based Growth Group**  
**Zephaniah 2:4-15**  
**Questions**  
**October 10, 2021**

**Introductory Discussion:**

What insight from Sunday's sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or troubling (pick any or all of the above)?

**Discussion:**

1. James 4:13-15 says,

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

  - a. How do you react when your plans don't turn out the way you want?
  - b. Who is in control of all outcomes?
  - c. So, when things don't go the way we planned, what does that tell us about what should happen?
  - d. How do we plan for the future, knowing that God is in control?
  
2. Zephaniah 2:7 says,

The seacoast shall become the possession  
of the remnant of the house of Judah,  
on which they shall graze,  
and in the houses of Ashkelon  
they shall lie down at evening.  
For the Lord their God will be mindful of them  
and restore their fortunes.

  - a. Who are the remnant?
  - b. What do their lives sound like?
  - c. What is God's promise to them, and how does that affect the way they live?

3. Verse 15 says,
  - This is the exultant city  
that lived securely,  
that said in her heart,  
“I am, and there is no one else.”  
What a desolation she has become,  
a lair for wild beasts!
  - a. What does God do to the proud?
  - b. What is significant about the city saying “I am”?
  - c. What do we mean by proud and what is wrong with it?
  
4. James 4:6 says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”
  - a. Why is it necessary for God to oppose the proud?
  - b. How does that benefit them?
  - c. Why is grace the appropriate response to the humble?
  - d. How does God’s response to the proud and the humble help them grow?
  
5. The Greek word for “repent” literally means to change your mind. What understanding do we need to change about God that will keep us humble and take away our pride?
  - a. Isaiah 64:6 says, “We have all become like one who is unclean, / and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.” What is “our righteousness”?
  - b. If even our good deeds are filthy, how should we approach our relationship with God?
  
6. In what areas of our lives do we need to acknowledge God’s sovereignty?
  - a. How does that change the way we live?