



Lewiston Church of Christ

May 30, 2021



Weekly Services

Sun. Bible Study 9:45 AM

Sun. Worship 10:45 AM

Sun. Day/Evening Groups

Wed Bible Study 6:30 PM

MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

ELDERS

Joe Bieren: 208-305-1136

Jerry Bolm: 208-360-9186

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

DEACONS

Education – Rick Richardson

Finance – Tom Hill

Outreach – Mark Whittaker

AREAS OF SERVICE

Building – Ken Vogtman

Custodian – Ron & Cindy Roberson

Fellowship – Joe & Carrie Bieren

Grounds – Cody & Doyle Dawes

Music Ministry – Ron Roberson

Secretary – Renee' Hill

Technology – Eric Kjorness

Technology – Cody Dawes

“Above All”

The book of **James** makes many good points.

- It points us beyond trials to joy (James 1:2).
- It warns against the winds of doubt (1:6).
- It reminds angry people to listen better (1:19).
- It clarifies the nature of pure religion (1:27).
- It repeats, “*Love your neighbor as yourself*” (2:8).
- It proclaims; “*Mercy triumphs over judgment!*” (2:13).
- It insists that faith without deeds is 10-7 (2:26).
- It warns against wagging a toxic tongue (3:6-9).
- It explains the causes of quarrels and wars (4:1-4).
- And James encourages us to “*stand firm*” (5:8).

Following this avalanche of wisdom, James uses an arresting phrase: “**Above all...**” (5:12). We nudge to the edge of our seats. What could possibly rise above perseverance, purity, wisdom, empathy, mercy, active faith, self-control, and patience? Listen to James:

- “*Above all, my brothers, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your “Yes” be yes, and your “No” no, or you will be condemned.*” (James 5:12).

Above all, be honest to the core of your being. Be real! Swearing oaths and making elaborate promises (or excuses) do not guarantee truth. Lose the gimmicks. Your word is your bond. When you say “yes,” follow through. When you say “no,” mean it. Don’t cave under pressure.

Our culture is drowning in manipulative word games. Emotion rules. Trust is dying. For James, honesty is not the exposure of emotion at others’ expense, but the sacrifice of pretense even at great cost to ourselves. The most radical thing you can do today is, be real, even when it hurts.

Lewiston church of Christ
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