

Father

Lord, how much do we know and plan vs how much do we follow and trust?

James 4:13 – *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*

Pro 27:1 – *Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring.*

Mt 6:33 – *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

- 34) *Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

Lu 12:19 – *And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."*

- 20) *But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get **what you have prepared for yourself?**'*
- 21) *This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.*

John, you don't know anything "in yourself"

- When you know something about Father's heart purpose, Then you can begin to build in that direction
- There are still conversations and mid-course corrections (You are still following)

Things you know:

- Father is building His Kingdom, working all things together for good (Rom 8:28)
- He is using sonship to do it
 - Courts and Council is not optional
- You are called to pioneer this aspect of Kingdom
 - I am adding *all these things*
 - Yet it's not a blank check for you to go crazy
 - You are co-laboring
 - From glory to glory
 - From strength to strength (Ps 84:7)
 - There is both creativity/initiative from you, and trust for what Father adds

Jesus

I can do nothing by myself

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me

Father's direction:

- Doesn't fit a formula
- It's not built around your life (convenience, ease, wealth)
- It puts Kingdom first (not you); It blesses people and nations
- I can go through sacrifice and suffering

There is a place of brokenness and trust that *counts it all Joy*.

(That sees purpose in death and resurrection.)

James 1:2 – *Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds,*

3) because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

4) Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Holy Spirit

Law of attraction is just a shortcut to put self first.

Pro 14:11 – *The house of the wicked will be destroyed, but the tent of the upright will flourish.*

12) There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

13) Even in laughter the heart may ache, and rejoicing may end in grief.

14) The faithless will be fully repaid for their ways, and the good rewarded for theirs.

Gal 6:7 – *Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.*

8) Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

9) Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Wisdom – Strategy

When you submit to your lusts, self is first.

- There is some entrapment, enslavement
- The life that comes from Father's word is forfeited
- We worship our carnal appetites

Rom 1:25 – *They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.*

26) *Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones.*

Lu 8:17 – *For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open.*

18) *Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they think they have will be taken from them.*

Mk 4:24 – *Consider carefully what you hear," he continued.*

"With the measure you use, it will be measured to you—and even more.

25) *Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them."*

James 1:23 – *Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror*

24) *and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.*

24) *But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.*

John, **Living words multiply into conversations**

But when you substitute recipes, you have only the letter left

- Recipes, formulas, principles, values, rules
- Your ways, desires, plans

Understanding - Tactics

Lord, how to stay my heart on Living Words?

- Put them to work, do them!
- They bear fruit (that feeds your heart)

Jn 4:32 – *But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about."*

34) *"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.*

Counsel

John, you anticipate the fruit, the harvest of sowing

- Father adding all these things
- The real fruit that feeds your heart is doing what Father is doing (regardless of the outcome)

Just follow the lamb, don't manage the results

Put your heroics on the altar – the trading floors

Gal 5:16 – *So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.*

Gal 6:8 – *Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.*

- 9) *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

Might

Courage flows from living words (Caleb)

- Exploits flow from anointing
- Life flows from every word that proceeds (Mt 4:4)

Stagnation and fear flow from the letter, that skips the Living Words

- Human reasoning, justifications, logic
- Ways that seem right, and end in death

1Cor 2:13 – *This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.*

- 14) *The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.*

The Sword of the Spirit is Living, Prophetic Words

Knowledge

There is a contrast between the Living and the Letter.

- Human, reasoning, rules, justifications are logical, rational, cerebral
- Father's wisdom doesn't follow:
 - Rules, values, principles
 - Recipes
 - Head knowledge
- Father's wisdom doesn't follow, it leads
 - His mercy and Manna are new every day (fresh vs stagnant)

The value is follow the freshness, the Lamb, the Life

Fear of the Lord

Fear, worry, identity are introverted emotions

- Focusing on them makes it worse
- *Free to be yourself* comes when you have a purpose higher than yourself (Living Words)
- Put the Kingdom first and let Father add the rest

Follow me and I will make you _____, create you, bring you forth, transform you

Following you, your rules, your needs, will leave you stagnant