

## **Every Chance We Get** – (James 4:10-17)

Nothing in life is too hard if we do it God's way!

God didn't make the Christian life too hard to be lived

*Illus* Everything I needed to know about life,

*I learned in Kindergarten.*

Vs 10: *Humble Yourself!*

The opposite of Humility is **PRIDE!**

(Prov 13:10) *Only be pride cometh contention.*

*Illus: How do I know if I have a Pride Problem?*

### **7 Signs of Pride**

1. Certain you are right.
2. Refuse to listen to anyone else.
3. Get Defensive when criticized.
4. Make excuses for your shortcomings.
5. Lash out at others to deflect attention.
6. No desire to examine your own life.
7. You have a Repeated pattern of misbehavior.
8. Prayer without repentance.

If you get Offended Easily, or Often.

Feel Unrewarded, Unappreciated, Taken for Granted!

Feel people would just Listen or Ask;

they would realize how smart you are.

Or how talented you are.

They would view you differently. Respect me more!

Any time we prefer ourselves before, or over someone

else is **PRIDE!**

**So how do we win the Battle of Pride?** (Jam 4:10)

**1<sup>st</sup> – Humble Yourself** - God's Way of exaltation is through Humility!

Vs. 10 *If I humble myself, God will lift me up!*

(Phil 2:5-9) This is the mindset we are to have!

**#1 Humble Ourselves.**

### **2nd - Don't Talk Bad about Others.**

Vs 11. *Illus: This ought to be written on your bathroom mirror, bathroom wall, or on the fridge – Wherever you spend the most time in serious contemplation!*

*“Speak not evil one of another **brethren**”*

**This is hard b/c people mess up!** (Ps 118:8)

*Hangout with ,e for 24 hrs. & I Will Fail You!*

*Illus: Bro. Joe has been talking bad about me, Does that give me the right to talk bad about Him?*

**Well if it's Good for the Goose?**

*Illus: Benny hits Levi – Goes unnoticed by everyone.*

Levi hits Back, **SMACK!**

We See & Hear it & discipline Levi.

*“Well He hit me 1<sup>st</sup>”*

What do we say?

*Doesn't matter who hit 1<sup>st</sup>, don't you hit your brother*

Vs11a *“Speak not evil one of another brethren,”*

**UNLESS IT'S TRUE** -Is that what yours says?

Well you need the Baptist version! **RIGHT!**

DOES IT SAY THAT? **NO!!**

*What do we tell our kids.*

*“If we don’t have anything nice to say \_\_\_\_\_?”*

Why don’t we follow our own advise?

Wouldn’t life be easier?

*Illus: With all this modern Technology, We ought to record ourselves every time we lecture & correct our children.*

Then when you come in for counseling I can play it back for you & you can follow your own ADVISE!

**Be Sweet, Play Nice, Share & don’t be Selfish, Say your Sorry! Don’t Hit!**

Would save a lot of time & frustration!

Vs 11 *For No Reason Ever; Speak Evil one of another Brethren!*

***This is Hard b/c people are messy.***

When we do, we lift ourselves above that person and the Law and become a Judge!

*Don’t look at me like that.*

Look at the person next you & Say “*This is for You!*”  
Some of you really enjoyed that way too much!

**This is for us all!**

Vs 11b We are raising ourselves about God’s Word.

Vs. 12 Who do you think you are Judging? God!

Our Pride leads us to Indite God of wrong doing

Our Pride leads us to play God when we judge.

*“Well if you knew what I knew”*

**Don’t Kid yourself, God’s got plenty on both of you & Me TOO! (We are Messy Too!)**

Vs 13 ***No different than playing God w/our lives***  
We are Boasting & Bragging

Vs 14 Our life is a vapor, just as fragile and unpredictable as theirs is.

Vs 15 We should leave it up to the Lord’s decision. Everything about our life should be from the perspective of ... “*I’ll pray, & If God Wills It!*”

Vs 16 We get so wrapped up in our Pride.  
We brag about our situation.

*We aren’t like them, we are smarter!*

*We didn’t make foolish choices!*

*Illus: If I don’t toot my own horn, Who will?”*

**GOD WILL! Vs 10**

Vs 17 Read it out load loud with Me: ***Key Verse!***  
***NOW ALL OF THAT WAS INTRODUCTION,***  
***LETS GET INTO THE MESSAGE***

(Gal 6:10) “*As we have, therefore, Opportunity!*

*“EVERY CHANCE WE GET – DO GOOD”*

*As we have, therefore, a feeling of generosity?*

Only when we feel like it. **NO!**

Nothing in the Christian Life is based on feeling.  
How we feel at the time has no bearing on anything!  
***We are to do Right because it is Right!***

*As we therefore have opportunity do good unto  
people I like!*

**Does it say that? NO**, then you need to get the  
Baptist Version!

If that's not so, why do we live that way?

*As we therefore have opportunity do good unto  
Pretty People, Our Peers, the Wealthy so they will  
owe me a favor!*

**2 Groups of people in here,**

**Those under Conviction ... or .....**

**Those who feel no one ever does Good to me!**

**Right Now, Say to yourself-**

**This Message is for ME! Go On Say it!**

**This Message is for ME!**

*As we therefore have opportunity do good unto  
people when it is convenient!*

Christianity is not a life of Convenience.

Our entire existence in America is based on this.

7/11 stores, Fast Food,

Relationships of Convenience.

***Christianity is a lifestyle of Duty & Sacrifice.***

**Do Good** What is Good?

***God will show you in each case!***

(Gal 6:10) speaks of doing Good to Some one other  
than ourselves.

**This is the Opposite of Evil** – This is not complex,

White is the opposite of black.

Light is the opposite of Dark.

Good is the opposite of Evil!

#1 of the reasons we are so Miserable, is we haven't  
got the "*Play Nice, Share, Don't Hit, use your  
Manners, Apologize*" in practice.

#2 we are Miserable because we live a life of  
positional Reality.

Based on how I value you, determines how I treat  
you!

*I look @ ?, I like him, I treat him nice.*

*I look @ ?, I like him, I treat him nice,*

*I look @ ?, He's old, so I don't want to waste my time  
"Well He did me dirty!"*

***So what's your point? Hit Him Back?***

*"Well, we just don't click, or we aren't compatible!"*

I have news for you, all of the brethren come with a  
personality.

Illus: Church can be like a 7/11.

*Lots of variety: Some Sweet, Some Salty!*

Some of the brethren aren't Pretty!  
Some don't smell real pretty!  
Some of the Brethren aren't fun!

*(Gal 6:10) As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.*

It's not up to us to be the judge of who is worthy of our goodness and Kindness.

### **Ps 34:11-14 The Benefits of Doing Good**

**“Depart”** When someone does evil, Walk away!  
Gossip, backbiting: “I'm Calling the Preacher!”

*Illus: stand up 2 guys and a boy. Evil is ugly and stinks, ask the boy to depart from evil.*

IF a Young person can figure it out why can't WE?

*Illus: Depart means If you can't control it!  
Turn the TV Off, Cancel Cable, Cancel the Internet,  
Get rid of the Dish!*

***Don't Do Evil; Every Chance we get Do Good!***

**Ps 34:14 “Seek Peace”** Why are we always looking for a fight! (Prov 17:9, 19)

Don't air peoples dirty Laundry, You wouldn't like it if we did yours.

“Well, You don't know mine”, Your Kidding yourself.  
This church is made up people with Faults.

The Opportunity to do evil is always present,  
We give each other plenty of Ammunition,

***In Like Manner...***

***Their is always the Opportunity to do GOOD!***

When they say “Here comes the Judge, they didn't mean you!”

*We would all appreciate it if you left your robe and Gavel at Home!*

**Rom 12:21 Here is HOW we overcome the with Good.**

**Rom 12:17 1<sup>st</sup> don't dish it back out when it comes your way!**

Stop Evil in its Tracks

**Rom 12:18 Seek Peace**

**Rom 12:19 Trust the Lord.**

God is better at righting the Wrongs

**Rom 12:20 Do GOOD!**

Coals of Fire are a Good thing.

*It will eat at them, & I know that is some of our only motivation*

**Gal 6:10: DO GOOD EVERY Chance We Get!**

*As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.*