



LIFEGROUPS

Series: *Get Fit*
Message: *Submit to God*

Scripture: *James 4:1-17*

Date: August 24-25, 2019

—[LET'S START]—

It's State Fair week in Minnesota. Are you a State Fair person? What is your favorite/least favorite part of the Great Minnesota Get Together?

—[LET'S TALK]—

1. **GRATITUDE AND PRAYER:** What happened last week for which you are thankful? What challenges do you see in your life? Your family? The World? Thank God for the beautiful ways that He has been at work. Pray for the challenges that those in your group are currently facing.

2. Read James 4:1-3.

What do verses 1-3 teach us about relationships? What do these verses teach us about our desires? How do these verses relate to Jeremiah 17:9?

3. Read James 4:4-6.

In light of so much of Scripture that speaks about God's love for the world, what is James teaching us in these verses? What are some ways that our friendship with the world impacts our relationship with God?

4. Read James 4:7-12.

What specific instructions does James give to the church in these verses? What makes submitting to God such a difficult thing for so many of us? What are some ways that you have found to resist the devil? What are your favorite ways to come near to God? How has repentance changed you? How has God lifted you up as you have humbled yourself before Him?

5. Read Matthew 6:19-21 and James 4:13-17.

What do these passages teach us about what really matters in life? How can we spur each other on to live with the end in mind?

—[LET'S ACT]—

In Matthew 6:19-21, Jesus spoke about storing up treasure in heaven. As we end our time today, let's talk about treasures that we would like to store up in heaven. Break into groups of 2-3 people and share what types of treasure that you are hoping to store up in heaven. Pray that God would help you to invest in the right type of treasure.

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- Given the opportunity, our hearts will deceive us over and over again. We have a problem with what we desire.
- Spiritually fit people submit their desires to God.
- We should not fall so in love with the world that the voice of God's Spirit is drowned out.
- Spiritually fit people live in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
- Spiritually fit people draw near to God.
- Spiritually fit people watch what they say.
- Of all people, Christians should be the least concerned with judging others. That is God's job.
- Spiritually fit people live with the end in mind.
- The Bible speaks often about treasure. Jesus spoke about a treasure that was a lasting wealth that will never fade away.
- If we want lasting wealth then we must invest in eternity.
- Jesus doesn't want us to be so consumed with the world that we miss out on what he says.
- We live in a fiercely independent country. The idea that we would voluntarily submit to anyone, that we live in dependence upon someone else seems to violate the very premise of what it means to be American. Yet, even the founding fathers of our nation, in the Declaration of Independence wrote the words, "With a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."
- It might be a good idea for all of us to write a Declaration of Dependence to God.

—[NOTES]—
