

## Stop Playing God

### James 4:11-17

#### I. STOP PLAYING GOD WITH YOUR WORDS. (vs 4:11-12)

A. Stop Speaking Evil of Others.

B. Stop Acting Superior with Your Words:

Three reasons why evil speaking is wrong:

1. Violation of the law of love.
2. Exemption from the law of love.
3. Elevation over the law of love.

C. Be Humbly Guided by Love When You Speak of Others.

Three changes we need to make:

1. Recognize the True Lawgiver.
2. Realize Your True Position.
3. Respond by Following the Law of Love.

#### II. STOP PLAYING GOD REGARDING YOUR FUTURE. (vs 4:13-17)

A. Stop Leaving God Out of Your Plans. 4:13-16

Four reasons why playing God in planning is wrong

1. We have no knowledge of the future.
2. We have no assurance of long life.
3. We have no right to ignore God's will.
4. We are foolish to play God with our plans.  
Lk 12:16-2

B. Put God in the Center of Your Plans.

#### 10 questions to ask when you plan for the future

1. What does the **Bible** say about it? Psalms 119:105
2. Have I **prayed** about it? James 1:5
3. What **information** can I find out about it? Neh. 2:11-16
4. How will it affect my God-given **priorities**? Phil. 1:23-25
5. What do my authorities and **counselors** say about it? Prov. 11:14
6. What do I really **desire** to do about it? Ps. 37:4; Phil. 2:13
7. Have I **submitted** this decision to God?
8. **When** do I have to make this decision?
9. How will this decision look five, or ten years in the **future**?
10. Am I willing to pay **the price** and give my best effort to make this work?