**“Living Out Your Faith through Business Vices”**

**James 4:13-5:6**

**AUTHORSHIP: It is quite generally agreed that James, called by Paul “the Lord’s brother,” (Gal. 1:19), was the writer of the epistle.**

**TO WHO ADDRESSED: Apparently to the Jewish converts who lived outside the Holy Land, possibly also to the devout Jews of the dispersion, ch.1:1.**

**MAIN THEME: Practical Religion, manifesting itself in good works, contrasted with mere Profession of Faith.**

**KEY TEXTS: James 1:27 – Religion that God the Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world; James 2:26 – As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.**

**Business: Engagements; Cares; Vices; Virtues; Affairs**

**Business Vices: Breach of Trust (Luke 16:12); Dishonesty (Proverbs 11:1; 20:14; 21:6); Extortion (Luke 13:3); Fraud (1 Corinthians 6:8); Unjust Gain (Proverbs 16:8; 21:6; 22:16); Slothfulness (Proverbs 18:9; 24:30-31).**

**I. BY DEVELOPING A BUSINESS PLAN**

**A. James 4:13-17**

**B.**

**C.**

**D.**

**II.BY DEALING WITH RICHES**

**A. James 5:1-6**

**B.**

**C.**

**D.**

**E.**

**Sample Harvest Homes Questions**

**1) Which verses stand out to you?**

**2) What principles and lessons do you see in the word?**

**3) How can you apply these principles to your life?**

**4) What teachings or statements don’t you quite understand and want to study further?**

**5) What did you learn about God?**

**6) What did you learn about human nature?**

**7) What did you learn about your own relationship with God?**

**8) You believe that God is calling you to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**