**“Living Out Your Faith through Pure Speech”**

**James 5:12**

**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.**

***Exodus 20:7 & Deuteronomy 5:11* *– You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.***

***Leviticus 19:12* – *You shall not swear falsely by My name, so as to profane the name of your God; I am* *the Lord.***

***Say – 1:13; 2:3, 14, 16, 18; 4:13, 15; Speak – 1:19; 2:12; 4:11; Tongue – 1:26; 3:5, 6, 8.***

1. ***BLASPHEMY (James 2:7)***
   1. **Blaspheme – blasphemeo, blas – fay – meh’- o; to vilify; spec. to speak impiously: - (speak) blaspheme (- er, - mously, my) defame, rail on, revile, speak evil.**
2. ***CURSING (James 3:9, 10)***
   1. **Cursing – katara, kat – ar’ – ah; imprecation, execration: - curse (- d, ing).**
   2. **Imprecate – to invoke evil on: CURSE: to utter curses.**
   3. **Execration – the act of cursing or denouncing; also: the curse uttered: an object of curses: something detested.**
3. ***PROFANITY (James 5:12)***
   1. **Swear – omoo, om – o’ – o; to swear, i.e. take (or declare on) oath: - swear.**

**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\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**