

**Study Questions for the March 14, 2021 Sermon:
“Controlling What You Can”
James 4:11-17**

1. Pastor Paul explained the meaning of this difficult passage from James 4:11: *The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law.* Do one of the following in no more than three sentences:
 - Summarize the explanation given to the sermon.
 - Offer your own explanation.
2. To paraphrase the introductory portion of the sermon: 'We should speak only as God would speak.' Yikes! Can you name any other verses or passages that repeat this same difficult command?
3. When scripture first introduces Satan, he is misstating the words of God, and attempting to confuse Eve. State some rules for interpreting scripture that will enable readers to discern when scripture is used properly.
4. Verse 17 contains a sobering teaching: If God has called us to take action, we can be sinning while sitting still. Share a time when you were impelled by the Holy Spirit to share your faith or perform an act of mercy.
5. How might you apply James 4: 11 – 17 when you are on social media?
6. Fill in the blanks from this paraphrase of the sermon: If it is foolish not to discuss important matters with your _____, how much more foolish is it to not _____ ?
7. What are resources to which Christians should turn when faced with difficult situations?