

## HCC News

• **Visiting Hope for the first time? Welcome!** Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the lobby. We want to say hello and we have a small gift for you.

### Connect

- **FINAL Summer 2017 Picnic!** Tomorrow, **August 7th, 6 pm**, we will be having our last summer extravaganza! Beulah Beach will be running a Family Fun night for the **whole community**. They'll bring their big toys and fun activities for families to do together before camp starts Tuesday. This will be a fun night for the whole community, whether or not you're attending Beulah on the Road. Invite your friends and neighbors! **PLEASE sign up at the Welcome Desk**. Email [Marsha.Copper@hopeolmsted.org](mailto:Marsha.Copper@hopeolmsted.org) with questions.
- **Lunch With the Pastors.** If you are new to the Hope Community family we would like to invite you to a lunch with the Pastors and some of our ministry team leaders. This is an opportunity to learn more about Hope and give us a chance to meet you. The lunch is after the second service on August 20th 12:15. You and your family are invited. Please sign up at <https://hopeolmsted.churchcenteronline.com/home>
- **EPIC's Crushers Game** -- Tickets have been purchased and are ready to be picked up. See Jan Moran at the Welcome Desk.
- **Prayer meeting** Thursdays 7-8 pm in room 111.
- **Weekly Prayer Letter.** If you'd like to be included on the prayer letter distribution list, or have prayer requests, praise reports or active military family member we need to cover in prayer, email [Carol.McDonald@hopeolmsted.org](mailto:Carol.McDonald@hopeolmsted.org).

### Beulah On the Road

- **Kids Day Camp. Last chance!** Beulah Beach is bringing Day Camp to us **this week!** All children who have completed K-6th Grade and their friends are invited to an amazingly fun week of day camp right here at Hope Community Church. Details can be found at [www.bbeach.org/botr](http://www.bbeach.org/botr) or ask Pastor Josiah.

### Serve

- **ONLINE Giving change.** This week we changed our giving system. Please check that you are not using a saved url to the old system. For a clean start, go to <http://www.hopeolmsted.org/serve/giving> to reestablish your giving. Email [Marsha.Copper@hopeolmsted.org](mailto:Marsha.Copper@hopeolmsted.org) with questions.
- **Children's Ministry Director.** Hope is looking for a part time director to oversee and coordinate our Children's Ministry (birth-5th grade). Local candidates only. Bachelor's Degree preferred. For a full job description or if interested, contact Marsha. Deadline to apply is 8/19/17.
- **Help the 4/14 Window!** We have the amazing opportunity to be involved in sharing the Good News with our children here at Hope. We invite you to become a part of the Children's ministry team. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Desk or see Laura Nass.
- **Olmsted Falls Food Pantry.** Provide emergency food assistance for the Olmsted Falls community. Their highlighted need is for boxed potatoes and boxed stuffing mixes, as well as canned pasta dinners (Chef-BoyaRdee) etc.... See full list at Welcome Desk.

### Student Ministries

- **High School Youth group** (9-12th graders). 6:00 pm tonight **OFFSITE**. Contact Pastor Josiah details. Bring your friends as well!
- **Middle School Youth Group** -- Wednesdays from 7-8:30PM. Bring your friends too!



All our events can be found on our website:  
[www.hopeolmsted.org](http://www.hopeolmsted.org)  
You can also connect with us on social media:  
Facebook: Hope Community Church  
Twitter: @hopeolmsted



**August 6, 2017**

**Pastor Joel Bubna**

6941 Columbia Road, Olmsted Falls, OH 44138

(440) 427-4635

Sunday 9:00 and 10:45



Member of the Christian & Missionary Alliance

**Hope Community Church**  
**Wisdom: God Sides with the Humble**  
**James 4**

**August 6, 2017**

**Dr. Austin Shaw**

James 4 teaches us that genuine humility before God is one mark of a wise person. We must remember that God, not man, is in control.

We can think of the words of Jesus, “*Whoever wants to become great among you must become your servant*” (Mat. 20.25-28). This concept is repeated as many as 50x throughout Scripture. For examples, see Psalm 149.4, Ezekiel 21.26, Matthew 23.12, or 1 Peter 5.5-6.

Alternatively, it has been said that Pride is the religion of Hell. In Scripture, God explicitly “*opposes the proud*” (James 4.6).

James 4 addresses three areas of life that focus on this pride-humility spectrum.

### **1.) When we are more concerned with the world than with God (James 4.1-10).**

James says that all of us have a disease “within” us (4.1). This disease can be called “hedonism”, the unchecked quest for pleasure. These Christians were more concerned about their local affairs than with the magnification of God and His plan.

*“Every crime committed in this world has come from a desire which was first only a feeling in the heart, but which being nourished long enough, came in the end to action.”* – William Barclay

James sees pride as being at the center of these quarrels. When I choose the world, I am choosing God as an opponent (4.6). The world can satisfy my immediate desires and stroke my ego, but it leaves me empty (4.2-3).

### **2.) When we rob God of His rightful judgment (4.11-12).**

These Christians were speaking badly about one another as to pass judgment upon them. Many of us love to enforce the laws rather than obey them (4.11).

### **3.) When we plan our future without God’s direction (4.13-17).**

James is not against planning (Cf. Luke 14.28-32). He is against planning without God. The merchants in this passage are calculating their future movements based on self-interest (v. 13).

Human ingenuity is not enough to secure the future. When we think that we are in control, we display our arrogance.

In an age when we think about maximizing profits, the Christian must come back to the truth of God’s primacy.

James says we do not even know what the future holds. When we think we have the future so well planned, we show that we disregard the complexity of life. We assert our knowledge when we do not have any.

We fail to realize the fragility of life (4.14).

Since tomorrow is uncertain, it should create urgency about today (v. 17, Cf. Prov. 3.27-28). We need to act now. James here points to a sin of omission.

### **Our Response**

We should delight in God’s grace (James 4.6, quotation of Prov. 3.34, 1 Pet. 5.5) Trying to live independently of God is delusional since we are dependent on God for our next breath.

We submit to God (James 4.7). We give up the right to run our own lives.

God’s will and God’s Word always cohere. We must plan our future based on God’s will as determined from reading His Word.

What checks are on my ambitions?

If we are to boast, should we not boast in our weakness (2 Cor. 11.30)?