

# DEALING WITH WEALTH

## LESSON 9: JAMES ON BUSINESS

### CORPORATE SITUATION ROOM

As the president of a start-up software company for over two years, you are getting nervous. Business was going well in the beginning, but now the economy has turned and things look grim. Cash flow is tight and payroll is due next week for your 15 employees. The software developer you subcontract with is calling about unpaid invoices. Your investors are calling to see when they can expect to get earnings. You have a big project in the works, but it's not official yet and brings no guarantees of when it would generate revenue. There just isn't enough cash to go around.

- Q. Who do you pay first? Why?
- Q. How should you communicate with all the stakeholders and employees of your company?
- Q. What are some other ways we take advantage of people in the workplace?

### JAMES 5:1-6

*<sup>1</sup> Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you. <sup>2</sup> Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. <sup>3</sup> Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. <sup>4</sup> Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. <sup>5</sup> You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup> You have condemned and murdered the innocent one, who was not opposing you.*

- Q. Who is James talking to? Who are the wealthy people to which he is referring?
- Q. Is it wrong to have wealth?
- Q. What is the difference between saving and hoarding?
- Q. What are motivators for hoarding?
- Q. What other resources do we hoard?
- Q. What does James mean by the "corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire"?
- Q. When does a healthy view of wealth and resources cross the line into sin?
- Q. What can a hoarding mentality lead to according to this passage?