



“What Causes Fights & Quarrels Among You?”

Week 9: James 4:1-12

James uses his big brother Jesus' tactic of asking a pretty thought provoking question. The reason Jesus asked so many questions is to get people thinking and also to reveal what was in a person's heart. Most of the time Jesus did not answer the question after he asked it, however James did. Not only did James answer the question, James also gives us the solution to the problem.

Read passage together

Questions:

1. Think about the last time you got into an argument. What was the cause of the argument?
2. (V. 1-2) - Fights and quarrels come from selfish desires that battle within us! The first thing James points to is us not others!
 - a. Why do you think James points inward to our own selfish desires instead of pointing the finger at others around us?
 - b. Have you ever experienced your own selfishness and desires to be the root of your fights and arguments between you and your spouse, your kids, your friends? Explain
3. (V. 4-6) - James warns us that we can't pursue friendship with this worldly system and the desires of our flesh and expect to please God and grow closer to him. We can't be lovers of this world and lovers of God.
 - a. What are some ways that you get caught up pursuing things of this world over pursuing God?
 - b. How does it affect your walk with God?
 - c. How does it affect you personally?
 - d. How does it affect your relationship with others?
4. (V. 7-10)- James gives us the solution to our selfish desires and motives.
 - a. What does it look like to submit to God?
 - b. What does it look like to resist the devil?
 - c. How can you come near to God?
 - d. How do we spiritually wash our hands and purify our hearts?
 - e. Grieve, mourn and wail are all apart of repentance. What do you need to repent of?
 - f. All of these steps take humility. What is the promise in verse 10 if we humble ourselves? (He will lift us up).

Take time to pray for each other.

Important announcements:

- Invite 3 unchurched people to church this week! Live on mission!