

**War and Peace
JAMES 4:1-10**

Small Group Discussion Guide

James uses very strong language about what can result when our desires rule our lives. What do verses 1-3 teach us about conflict?

External conflict results from internal conflict. How have you seen that at work in conflicts you have witnessed or been involved in?

Embedded in verses 2 and 3 are some truths about prayer. What is said here that challenges you in the area of prayer?

James 4:3 tells us God was not answering their prayer because of wrong selfish motives. The bible gives other reasons why our prayers are hindered or go unanswered by God. Check out the following verses and write the reason next to them. Then determine if there are one or two you need to work on to clear up your communication with God.

Proverbs 21:13

1 Peter 3:7

1 John 5:14

Proverbs 28:9

James 4:3-4

Luke 18:1-8

Psalms 66:18

Matthew 5:23-24

Luke 18:9-14

Mark 11:25

Matthew 6:5

Mark 11:23-24

We do not often think about the jealousy of God. What does that idea convey to you? Why is it an incentive to personal holiness?

We live in a superficial culture that trivializes sin. How do we take God seriously and sin seriously, and still live a life of joy?

What part does repentance play in your life as a Christian?

Talk about humility. What people come to your mind when you think of this quality?

Humility is an elusive concept, but one that is very important to James (cf. 1:21; 3:13; 4:6, 10). What does it mean to "humble yourselves before the Lord"?

In the final analysis, James wants us to understand that the ultimate solution to conflict is humility before God. How will putting this understanding into practice change the way you live?

The Problem: _____

The Cause: _____

The Cure:

1. Start Doing Things God's Way - _____

2. Resist The Devil:

- _____ **your commitment to God**
- **Resist the desire** _____
- _____ **and** _____
- **Resist the same way Jesus did...** _____
- **Resist by putting on** _____

3. Visit With God... _____

4. Start Taking Sin _____

The Result:

- **We Will Experience** _____