

Faith That Works - Submits to God

James 4:1-10

Doug Bridge

March 19, 2023

Talk It Over

SMALL TALK

1. Share a time something was said about you that was NOT true but caused you real hurt.
2. Has there been a time you "slandered" someone else? What did you do about it?

VIEWPOINT

3. In James 4:11 what is slander and what is wrong with it?
4. In verse 12, what reasons does James give for not judging another?
5. Can you find the 4 agendas that characterize the lifestyle of an arrogant person described in verse 13?
6. In verse 15, what does James say our agendas ought to look like?
7. Back to verse 14, what are the cautions James gives about the first set of agendas?
8. What does verse 16 say about boasting and bragging?

GETTING PERSONAL

9. There are sins that we commit. Then, in verse 17, James talks about things we omit that are also sin. While we all struggle with each, which type of sinning do you think is your greatest personal spiritual challenge?

MAKING PROGRESS

10. If you were to set 1 goal for this week based on our study of James to this point, what would it be? Will you set it? Do you have someone you can share this with?

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SLIDE: Selfish and Pride

SLIDE:

4 Do you know where your fights and arguments come from? They come from the selfish desires that make war inside you. **2** You want things, but you do not have them. So you are ready to kill and are jealous of other people. But you still cannot get what you want. So you argue and fight. You do not get what you want because you do not ask God. **3** Or when you ask, you do not receive because the reason you ask is wrong. You want things only so that you can use them for your own pleasures. **James 4: 1-3.**

ICB

SLIDE: 1. Selfish Motives = Pride.

SLIDE:

4 You are not faithful to God. Don't you know that to be a friend of the world is to hate God? So anyone who chooses to be the world's friend becomes God's enemy. **5** Don't you know what Scripture says? God wants the spirit in us to belong only to him. God caused this spirit to live in us. Don't you think Scripture has a reason for saying this?

James 4: 4,5. NlrV

SLIDE: 2. Pride + World's Friend = God's Enemy

SLIDE: 3. OR

SLIDE: Humble, Submit & Obey

SLIDE:

6 But God continues to give us more grace. That's why Scripture says, "God opposes those who are proud. But he gives grace to those who are humble." (Proverbs 3:34) **7** So obey God.
James 4: 6,7a. NlrV

SLIDE: 4. (Humbly) Submit to God = Receive His Grace

SLIDE: "If he were a tyrant it might be courageous to resist, but since he is a Father it is ungrateful to rebel."
- Charles Spurgeon

SLIDE:

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **8** Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. **9** Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. **10** Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor. **James 4:7b-10. NLT**

SLIDE: 5. Resist the devil + Come near to God = Devil runs + God comes near to you.

SLIDE: (Whatever slide that is being used in this series at the end of things)