

“Stop That Fighting!”

Sermon Discussion Questions on James 4:1-10

Note: *To give & receive the greatest benefit from this discussion, please review your own sermon notes, read & reflect on these discussion questions in advance.*

1. If you have been part of a church in conflict, tell us what the issues were i.e. disagreement over a pastor, music, doctrine, government, money, etc.
 - * How did it affect the morale & ministry of that church?
 - * To what degree has that church recovered?
2. Someone read **James 4:1-3**.
 - * Which of the 3 desires or unmet needs listed have caused you internal conflict over the years i.e. to **get more things**, **feel more important**, **have more pleasure**?
 - * What are some ways internal conflict might lead to conflict in a church?
 - * According to James, in what ways does internal conflict affect our prayer life?
3. Someone else read **James 4:4-6**.
 - * Does it blow your mind to think that we can arouse God’s jealousy? What are some ways we might do that?
 - * What are some possible consequences of committing spiritual adultery, flirting with the world, flesh and devil?
 - * Discuss the statement: “*Pride is like a Teflon coating on the soul, which keeps us from absorbing God’s grace.*” Why do you agree or disagree with that?
4. Another person reads **James 4:7-10**.
 - * Underline all the verbs (action words) in these verses i.e. submit, resist, come near, wash etc. What are some practical ways to do those things?
 - * How might these actions help us to humble ourselves before the Lord?
 - * How would humbling ourselves before the Lord help us to resolve or avoid conflict & fighting with others?
 - * **Isaiah 57:15 (GNT)** *I am the high and holy God, who lives forever. I live in a high and holy place, but I also live with people who are humble and repentant, so that I can restore their confidence and hope.*