

Pure Religion

Wisdom for Fights & Quarrels – James 4:1-10
April 15, 2018

What causes quarrels and fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you?" - **James 4:1**

I.The Cause of Fights and Quarrels (vs. 1-3)

- Our evil desires are the cause (vs. 1-2; James 1:14).
- Good desires can become evil desires.
- We fight to get what we want (v. 2).
- We ask with wrong motives to spend on our pleasures (v. 3).

II.The Consequences of Fights and Quarrels (vs. 4-6)

- An adulterer, a friend of the world, hating God, and an enemy of God (v. 4).
- When we fight and quarrel, we hate other people and God.
- We grieve the Holy Spirit (v. 5; Ephesians 4:30).
- God in his grace disciplines us (v. 6; Hebrews 12:11).
- God opposes our pride (v. 6).

III.The Solution to Fights and Quarrels (vs. 7-10)

- Submit to God and resist the devil (v. 7).
- Repent (vs. 8-9; Psalm 51:17).
- Humble yourself (v. 10).
- God will lift us up (v. 10).
- Trusting that Jesus is more than enough!

KNOW: Our evil desires are the cause of our fights and quarrels. The solution to our fights and quarrels is to repent of our evil desires and replace them with Jesus, who is more than enough.

DO: Repent of our evil desires. Fear God rather than fearing not getting what we want. Treasure Jesus.

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read James 4:1-10

1. What good desires in your life have become evil desires/idols that you fight over to get and fight over when you do not get?
2. Why are our motives so important in prayer? (v. 3)
3. What are some of the consequences of our fights and quarrels in verses 4-6?
4. How does James describe repentance in verses 7-10?
5. What evil desires/heart idols do you need to repent of? (Hint: What are you trying to get when you fight and quarrel?)
6. What happens when we repent? (v. 10)
7. With whom do we need to replace our evil desires that never truly satisfy? (Hint: His name has five letters.) How do we do this?