

Why a Church Can Become a Combat Zone

James 4:1-10

James knew that all of us tend to think, “____,” and become unhappy, offended, even _____ if we don’t get our way. He addresses this problem in **James 4:1-10**.

The source of fights and quarrels among believers is something _____ the person or persons. We want something. When we don’t get what we want, we create _____.

James challenges us to consider from where or from whom we should seek the things we desire—from the _____ or from _____? Our natural tendency is to expect to have our needs met by the world—by things or by other people. Like the world, we will fight and quarrel if necessary until we get the response we want. We expect and use the world’s _____ to meet our needs.

James reminds us that our needs can only truly be met by God as we ask Him in _____. But even in praying, we can miss the mark. If our requests are born out of _____ and _____, God won’t respond positively.

In the latter half of this section, James speaks directly to the heart of the matter: _____—the tendency to put _____ above _____, demand our own way, and expect even God to _____ to our wishes and give us everything we want.

What does it mean to humble yourself? **Phil. 2:3-4** describes humility: “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.” Humility is _____. It isn’t about thinking _____ of yourself but thinking _____ of others.

Our greatest example of humility is _____. He humbled Himself in the sight of the Lord by _____, and the Father lifted Him up. When we, like Jesus, _____ others above ourselves, _____ that others get their needs met, and _____ one another, God takes pleasure in lifting us up.