

# JAMES

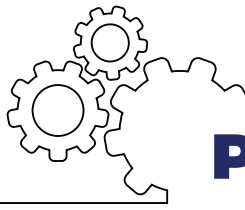
WORD TO THE WISE

## Message Study Guide



**PRAY READ EXPLORE: James 4:1-12**

**Message Notes:**



## PRAYREADEXPLORE

**1** Pray, then read and explore the passage. Any notable observations or questions?

**2** James has some strong words in this section! What phrases could be used to sum up this whole section?

**3** James lists some of the root causes of divisions in the early church and then calls the church to choose being a friend of God over a friend of the world. Life is a battle. What is the result of this battle according to James (**James 4:1-6**)?

What passions/motives are at war within you and in the body of Christ?  
What is the cause and the effect?

Why is friendship with God contrasted with friendship with the world?  
Do you feel the tension between relational loyalties with God and the world?  
What does it feel like, where do you see it, and what can you do about it?

How is God's grace extended to those who humble themselves?

**4** What is all this talk about asking things in **James 4:3b-4**? Who is asking and who is being asked? How does asking things wrongly, with wrong motives, relate to the verses that come before and after?

**5** What is **James 4:7-10** ultimately calling the church to do? Note all the commands offered. Discuss how these commands relate to humility.

In what ways are you hesitant to submit to God?

How is turning to God in repentance and remorse a demonstration of humility?  
Where are you treating your sin casually?

**6** **James 4:11-12** reintroduces the theme of speech. What command and warning does he give to those who practice such things?

**APPLY** *Think of an area where you need to resist the devil. What steps can you take to do that? Spend some time in prayer asking for wisdom and strength to take those steps. (see **Matthew 6:9-13**)*