



A Heart Like His

Session #9

James 4:1-12

"War and Peace"

Start

- How do you most often handle conflict? (Are you actively aggressive, passively aggressive, completely non-confrontational, etc?)
- Can you think of a time recently when you got into an argument with someone? What was it about? How well do you think you handled it?
- What situations and topics most often lead to you getting into disagreements with others? Are there certain people you find yourself continually arguing with, and if so, why do you think this is?
- Read James 4:1-12**

Watch

Use the space below to take notes while you watch the video.



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Discuss

Read James 4:1

- According to James, why do we quarrel and fight?
- How well are you able to listen and learn from people who think differently than you?

Read James 4:2-3

- What types of 'selfish' desires do you experience that most often lead to fights and arguments with others?
- What things do you find yourself selfishly asking God to give you?

Go back and read James 1:13-16 – Remember our fishing video where our deceptive internal desires were compared to a baited hook trying to lure a fish out of water. Both things promise something enticing but end with destruction.

- How does James 1:13-16 directly relate to what he is talking about here in chapter 4? In what ways can our selfish desires lead to our own personal destruction as well as the ruin of others?
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(Questions on back)



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Read James 4:4-5

- In what ways do you most often pursue friendship with the world? Why do you think James speaks so harshly to this?
- Critics of Christianity often criticize God's jealousy. In what ways is God's jealousy different from the selfish jealousy that you and I so often experience? How is God's jealousy 'for us' good news for us?

Read James 4:6-10 – Based on what James has told us in the first five verses of chapter 4, he tells us we need to take two actions – **submit to God and take the inner war in our hearts seriously.**

- Based on verses 6 -10, what does "submitting ourselves to God" look like?
- Based on verses 6 -10, what does "taking the inner war in our hearts seriously" look like?
- What from the passage and video most stood out to you and why?
- In what ways does this message challenge your faith? How can you apply what you've learned in your life this week?