

Text: James 4:1-10
Topics: Fights, Lusts, Submission to God
Series: Genuine Faith on the Anvil of Life.

Monroe Bible Church
March 27, 2022
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The Church Fight

I. The Cause of the Fights (1-4)

You cannot live a worldly life and live in harmony with God.

II. The Cure for the Fights (5-6)

God will help you to live in harmony with Him but you need to supply humility.

III. The Course for Eliminating the Fights (7-11)

The humility you need to supply is to move toward God, and away from sin, with all sincerity.

The reward will be worth it!

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group for even more benefit.*

1. Have you witnessed a church fight? Was there a good ending? Explain.
2. Read James 4:1-3. What problem was James addressing in the churches? What did he identify as the source of the problem?

Is he talking about a battle between people or within people?

Is James telling them that if they ask God for whatever it is they want God will grant it? (See also Mark 11:24 & 1 John 5:14-15)
3. In verse 4 James calls them adulteresses, says they are hostile toward God, and they make themselves God's enemy! Describe what these words communicate.
4. Read James 4:5-6. It isn't clear what verse 5 means; good Bible scholars have different opinions. Verse 6, however, is clear. What would it mean for God to oppose a person?

What would it mean for God to give grace to a person?
5. Pick out the verbs James uses in verses 7-8. Describe what doing each verb would look like.

What would be the purpose for urging people to apply themselves to these actions?
6. Why would James be urging what he tells them to do in verse 9?
7. In verse 10 James urges his readers to humble themselves in the presence of the Lord. How does one do that? What does it mean for God to exalt (or lift up) a person?