

Sermon: Wisdom In Conflict.
Series: James: Real Wisdom Real Faith.

Scripture: James 4:1-6a.
Date: February 20, 2022

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) What character traits of God are on display in this passage? What words are used to describe him? Do any of them surprise you?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) Can you identify an ongoing relational conflict in your life? In what ways are you blaming others for the conflict?

b) Can you identify and discern your desires within a conflict? Can you tell which desires are illegitimate (passions - verse 1) and which one are legitimate but maybe out of proportion (desire – verse 2)?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) God gives more grace. In what ways are you actively seeing God give you more grace in your relationship with him? And in what ways might you show grace to those you have been struggling with relationally? Be specific if you can.

APPLICATION

a) Think through these 8 steps of wisdom in conflict: 1) Look beneath the surface, 2) identify your desires, 3) own your problems, 4) repent, 5) trust God's jealousy for you, 6) take your desires directly to God, 7) express your desires to each other free from expectations, 8: give more grace.

How do these apply to a conflict that you may be in? Where are you in this process?

b) "You do not have because you do not ask." As you think through your relational struggles what desire might you commit to taking to God in prayer?

FIGHTER VERSES: James 3:13-18.

PRAYER

- Praise God for his never ending supply of grace.
- Confess ways that you have cheated on God by expecting others to satisfy your desires.
- Thank Jesus for his perfect jealous love for you.
- Ask God to help you give more grace to others this week.