

Studies In The Book James Faith In Action!

Lesson 15

Read James 4:1

Introduction: I don't think I ever heard of a family not having a quarrel. Somewhere at sometime someone will say or do something to offend a family member. I remember when we would go on family vacations. The car was loaded down, all the kids were in the backseat and off we went. No sooner did we get on the road my wife and I would hear *"give that back, that's mine, no that's mine!"* James will ask the question *where do wars (battles) and fights come from?* I can tell you, they come from the backseat! The same is true of God's family, the Church. When we have the wrong motives focusing on our desire for pleasure we become selfish and begin to war among ourselves saying *"give that back, that's mine"*. Philippians 2:3–4 says, *Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.*

Pastor Rick Myers

1. James asked the question *"where do wars and fights come from among you?* According to James 4:1 what was his answer?
 - What did Jesus say concerning what comes out of the heart according to Mark 7:21 – 23? (Make a list)

2. According to Matthew 13:22 what will happen to those who receive seed among the thorns?

- What warning and words of wisdom did Paul give to Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:6 – 10?

3. According to James 4:1 what is warring in our members?

- What do the following scriptures reveal about the spiritual war within each of us and the way we can have victory over the flesh:
 - Romans 7:23 – 25
 - Romans 13:11 – 14
 - Galatians 5:17: 17 – 18
 - 1 Peter 2:11 – 12
- According to Proverbs 21:17 what will happen to the man who loves pleasure?

4. In what area of life was Solomon seeking after pleasure and what was his conclusion according to Ecclesiastes 2:1 – 11?

- According to 1 John 2:15 – 17 what instructions and warning does John give to us concerning the world?

- How did Jesus minister to the rich young ruler according to Luke 18:18 – 27? What words of hope did Jesus leave for us to ponder?

5. God has given us all things to enjoy in life. How has God brought godly *pleasure* in your life according to the following scriptures?

- Ephesians 1:3 – 6

- Luke 12:32

- Psalm 16:11

6. How can your life bring God pleasure?