



The Book of James
Lesson 11: Pride vs. Humility: James 4:1-17

1. Many conflicts that occur in the church are a result of the flesh.

James 4:1

2. James describes the manipulation of situations and people that takes place in order for someone to get their own way.

James 4:2

What does James mean when he says that believers murder?

Matthew 5:21, 22

1 John 3:15

James 4:2 – Amplified Bible

You are jealous and covet [what others have] and your desires go unfulfilled; [so] you become murderers. [To hate is to murder as far as your hearts are concerned].

Definition of COVET: _____

3. God will not bless self-centeredness.

James 4:3

Definition of AMISS: _____

When we do not receive from God, it is not always because of a lack of faith.

4. Friends with God or the world?

James 4:4

James 4:4 – Amplified Bible

You [are like] unfaithful wives [having illicit love affairs with the world] and breaking your marriage vows to God! Do you not know that being the world's friend is being God's enemy? So whoever chooses to be a friend of the world takes his stand as an enemy of God.

We are in covenant with God. When we walk away from that covenant we are committing spiritual adultery.

If you find your pleasure in the world, you make yourself an _____

5. Humility**James 4:5, 6**

More power of the Holy Spirit is given to the _____ who are friends of God.

James 4:6 – Amplified Bible

But He gives us more and more grace (power of the Holy Spirit, to meet this evil tendency and all others fully). That is why He says, "God sets Himself against the proud and haughty, but gives grace [continually] to the lowly (those who are humble enough to receive it)."

6. A formula guaranteed to make the devil flee.**James 4:7**

The first step is to submit to God.

Definition of SUBMIT: _____

If you are trying to resist the devil, but not submitting to God, the devil will not flee from you.

The second step is to resist the devil.

Definition of RESIST:

- Vigorously opposing
- _____
- Standing face to face against an adversary
- _____

Ephesians 6:13

The word "withstand" is the same Greek word translated "resist" in James 4:7.

James 4:7

One way to resist the devil is by wearing the whole armor of God.

_____ both have to be practiced to make the devil flee.

7. Moving closer to God.**James 4:8, 9**

There is a responsibility on your part to cause your relationship with God to be closer.

This is speaking about _____

There are times in the life of a Christian when he or she should show true repentance.

James 4:9 – Amplified Bible

[As you draw near to God] be deeply penitent and grieve, even weep [over your disloyalty]. Let your laughter be turned to grief and your mirth to dejection and heartfelt shame [for your sins].

8. More about humility and repentance**James 4:10**

The result of true repentance is _____

You are supposed to humble yourself. God does not humble you.

The result of humility is being lifted up. The result of pride is a fall.

Proverbs 16:18

Definition of HUMBLE: This word describes a person who is willingly submitted to God and His will.

9. Judgement of others**James 4:11, 12****James 4:11, 12 – Living Bible**

Don't criticize and speak evil about each other, dear brothers. If you do, you will be fighting against God's law of loving one another, declaring it is wrong. But your job is not to decide whether this law is right or wrong, but to obey it. Only he who made the law can rightly judge among us. He alone decides to save us or destroy. So what right do you have to judge or criticize others?

Matthew 7:1-5

Jesus is dealing with a spirit of fault finding.

Fault finding is often done in the name of discernment.

This does not forbid condemnation of sin.

10. There is a right way to judge.

When we are in the position to judge we must do it with the correct measure – the Word of God.

There is a _____ way to judge. Jesus addresses this a few verses later into Matthew 7.

Matthew 7:15-20**11. Consider God's will when making plans for your life.****James 4:13-16**

It is not wrong to have goals and plans for your life.

It is boasting and prideful to think that you can make plans for your life without consulting God.

God owns you. Your life is _____

1 Corinthians 6:19, 20**12. The sin of omission****James 4:17**

Most of the time when we think of sin, we think about sins of commission.

Sin is not only committing evil deeds; it is also passively failing to do what you know God wants you to do. This is the sin of omission.

Matthew 25:31-46**Proverbs 24:11, 12 – Living Bible**

Rescue those unjustly sentenced to death; don't stand back and let them die. Don't try to disclaim responsibility by saying you didn't know about it. For God, who knows all hearts, knows yours, and he knows you knew! And he will reward everyone according to his deeds.

Sin is not just doing something _____. Sin is also not doing something _____