

**Weekly Summary:** Faith Works To Be Faithful

Being a good friend is a good thing...unless it's with the world. James urges us to be friends with God and unfriend the sinful world.

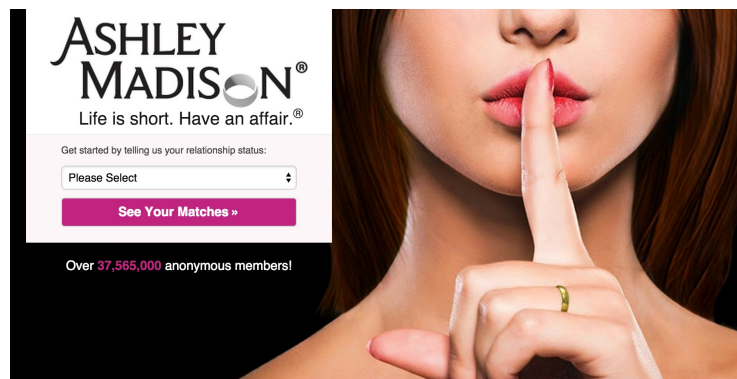
**Homework Leading Into This Week:** James 4:4-12

**Scripture Reading:** 1 John 2:15-17; 3:7-10

# FaithWorks:

## A Journey Through James

### Week 7: Faith Works To Be Faithful



- ❖ James 4:4 - You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.
- ❖ **Fake faith** loves the **affair**.
- ❖ James 4:5 - Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?
- ❖ Jealous = Fiercely **protective**.
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 11:2 - I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.

- ❖ James 4:6a - But he gives us more grace.

James 4:6b - That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

- ❖ **Faith** ends the **affair**.

### **Points to Ponder**

1. Which of the following best summarizes James's argument?
  - 1) Atheists are cheating on God.
  - 2) Christians who struggle against temptation are cheating on God.
  - 3) "Christians" who don't struggle against temptation are cheating on God.
2. In view of your answer above, are you cheating on God? Explain your response to a Christian friend.
3. Reflect on the world's view of the 10 Commandments (re-listen to this part of the podcast, if necessary). Which commandment is the biggest struggle for you as you work to be faithful to God?
4. Meditate on 1 John 3:7-10. Is John teaching that good works get you to heaven? Why or why not?
5. What do you lose by being faithful in an earthly relationship? What do you gain? How do those losses and gains compare to being faithful to God?

### **Homework For Next Week: James 4:13-17**

*"For your Maker is your husband - the LORD Almighty is his name."  
~ Isaiah 54:5*

### **Worship Through Song at The CORE:**

1. "Thrive" - by Casting Crowns
2. "Proof Of Your Love" - by For King & Country
3. "Keep Making Me" - by Sidewalk Prophets
4. "Live Like That" - by Sidewalk Prophets