



**Title: Practical Living: Submission**

**Scripture: James 4:1-12**

**Date: 07082018**

**Bible Version: NKJV**

**BOTTOM LINE: God's grace abounds and is available to everyone.**

**Vs. 1**

**Where do wars and fights come from among you?** - James ask his audience where do wars and fights come from.

**Your desires for pleasure-** Jame answers his own question. Wars and fights come from our own desires for pleasure.

*Do they not arise from one desiring something, and another desiring the same thing? - Spurgeon*

**If we want to have less conflict in our lives, we need to seek the good of others over ourselves.**

**Vs. 2**

**You lust...You murder...You fight-** James tells us things we are all guilty of. In one breath we engage in these activities and then in the next breath wonder why God won't bless us.

**Yet you do not have because you do not ask?** - James tells us that we do not have because we do not ask.

*[Psa 65:11 NKJV] You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip [with] abundance.*

**Our God is not a God of lack. He is our God of more than enough.**

**Our God is our God of Abundance:**

**1. Wisdom**

- 2. Resources
- 3. Creativity

### **Vs. 3**

**Because you ask amiss.** - James tells us that we ask amiss. We carry a bias that is rooted around the question of 'What is best for me'.

**We often ask from a heart of 'me first'. We should asked from a heart of God first.**

*God will not bless us because, in doing so, he would be helping us gratify our lusts. - Spurgeon*

### **Vs. 4**

**Friendship with the world is enmity with God.** - James is not referring to the actual sin of adultery, rather He is referring to how we share our heart (that belongs to God) with this world.

**We have to give our WHOLE affection and being to God.**

### **Vs. 5**

**Yearns jealously** - James tells us that as believers the Holy Spirit dwells within us. The Spirit yearns for us. Our human nature is centered around always wanting what someone else has.

**God will not share His glory with anyone or anything else.**

**God needs to have the first place in every area of our lives.**

### **Vs. 6**

**But He gives more grace.** - James tells us that the well of grace that God has to offer is endless.

*This is the universal recipe for all that we need. "He giveth more grace."- Spurgeon*

### **Vs. 7**

**James gives us the play book for our lives.**

1. Submit to God.
2. Resist the devil.

The result is that he will flee from you.

Hear this command, and practice it. - Spurgeon

### **Vs. 8-9**

**Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.** - We are given an invitation and a promise. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

### **Three Practical Ways To Draw Near To God:**

1. Worship - Give God the glory and your best in everything you do.
2. Counsel - Allow His spirit to speak to you through His word.
3. Prayer - Commune with God often.

### **Vs. 10**

**Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord.** - James instructs us to Humble ourselves before God. The creator of the universe.

**We don't make things happen, we have the opportunity to steward moments well.**

*There cannot be two absolutely free beings in the universe, for sooner or later two completely free wills must collide. - A.W. Tozer*

**You and I were designed and created for God's pleasure.**

**He will lift you up.** - The result of humbling ourselves before our Lord is that He will lift us up. His grace lifts us up. Grace alone through faith alone.

**The grace of God out weights anything you can achieve or earn.**

*If you exalt yourself, He will pull you down. If you lie down in the dust before Him, He will lift you up. - Spurgeon*

### **Vs. 11**

**Do not speak evil of one another, brethren** - James instructs us to not speak evil of one another.

**Vs. 12**

**Who are you to judge another** - James asks a great question. Who are we to assume the role of God.

*When we have proper humility before God, it just isn't within us to arrogantly judge our brother. - Guzik*

**When we humble ourselves and get right with God, it will result in our getting right with others.**

July 8th, 2018

Discuss

Dig Deeper



Practical Living: Submission  
James 4:1-12

# 3D Guide

**BOTTOM LINE: God's grace abounds and is available to everyone.**

**DO.**

1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
4. What is your prayer for today?



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**DISCUSS.**



1. Read James 4:10. What are areas in our lives that we like to keep control over?
2. What are some things that we can do to practically humble ourselves before the Lord?
3. Read James 4:12. What are some ways that Christians 'judge' others on a daily basis?
4. What are some things that we can do to change this behavior?

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**DO.**



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on [blueletterbible.com](http://blueletterbible.com) or with their app.



# Parents & Kids

TAKE **HOME**

**DATE:** July 8th, 2018

## **Bible Story: Jeremiah & Baruch (Jeremiah 30:1-2, 31 & 36:4-18)**

1. God spoke to Jeremiah because the people were sinning and God knew they needed instruction on how to live a better life. The same exact words that Jeremiah told Baruch to write down many years ago are the same words we read in our Bibles today. Why do you think God wanted Jeremiah to have His instructions written down?
2. Sometimes when we are trying to recall, or remember, events in our lives, we get some of the details confused unless we write them down so we can remember them later. Some people even keep diaries or journals to document things they want to remember. If you've ever played a game of telephone, you know that messages transferred by word of mouth can get really changed around! Can you think of some things that it would be better to have written instructions or details for than just having to remember them?
3. Even though the Bible is very old, how do we know we can trust and apply God's word to our lives today? (Because God's word is perfect and it never changes)
4. Since God's word is perfect and it never changes, we can always look to God's word for direction in our life. When we pray and seek God's perfect wisdom, will He guide us in the right direction? (Always!)

**Memory Verse:** "Be good to me, your servant, so that I may live to obey your word. Open my eyes so that I can see all of the wonderful things in your teachings." (Psalm 119:17-18)

