



October 13-14, 2018  
Life Hacks: Getting What You Want  
Dr. Kurt Bjorklund

**MESSAGE NOTES:**

James 4:1-6

Verse 1 - "desires"

Verse 2 - "covet"

3 evidences of runaway desires:

1. Unresolved Conflicts v. 1
2. Unrequested Grace v. 2-3
3. Unapologetic Pursuits v. 4-6

Address desires:

How we see God v. 4-5

How we see ourselves v. 6

**STUDY GUIDE:**

**Reference:**

Open in prayer and read James 4:1-6.

**Review:**

What was one thing from this weekend's message that challenged, confused, or stood out to you?

**Reflect:**

1. Share about a time when God answered your prayer for something significant (either positively or negatively).

2. Verse 1 uses war imagery in the original language to describe the internal conflict between good desires and evil desires. Ephesians 6:10-18 lists our weapons for such a battle. What has God provided us with to help us win these battles?
  
3. In verse 4, James is direct in his charges, saying that "friendship" with the world is the action of both an adulterer (spiritually) and an enemy of God. Why is he so harsh in his assessment?
  
4. One of the challenges of prayer is that often God seems to wait before He answers. Discuss some things you may be waiting on God for currently. How can we encourage one another to keep believing while we wait?
  
5. In Luke 11:1-3, Jesus teaches his disciples to pray, as they requested. What does this passage teach us? How can we connect it to James' teaching here?
  
6. Some say James 4:3 is advocating asceticism - denying our self pleasures for some spiritual purpose. What do you think Scriptures teach us about God's view of human pleasure?
  
7. There are some who claim that prayer should not be a list of the things we want to receive from God. To what extent do you agree/disagree with that statement? Explain your answer.

**Respond/Reinforce:**

This week apply what you've learned about your heart's motives toward prayer. Philippians 4:4-7 implores God's people to bring our requests to Him with thanksgiving. Let your gratitude toward God motivate your prayer.