

James
Warfare
November 8, 2015

Key Facts:

- James is the little brother of Jesus.
 - James was the pastor of the largest church in the world.
 - James ultimately would die because of conflict.
- Conflict will follow you everywhere you go simply because you are in love with Jesus.

1) Worldly Conflict

“What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don’t they come from the evil desires at war within you? You want what you don’t have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can’t get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don’t have what you want because you don’t ask God for it. And even when you ask, you don’t get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure. You adulterers! Don’t you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.”
James 4:1-4 (NLT)

- When there is a problem around us, it usually starts because of a problem inside of us.
- Flesh: the natural evil that lives inside of us.
- Worldly: things are put together in a way that makes Satan happy.
- We are “friends of the world” when we chose our natural desires.

Examples of Worldly Conflict:

- Passions – Worldly passion is untethered and our actions become unfiltered.
- Coveting - We aren't asking for it, or we aren't accepting what God has for us.
- Motives - Nobody knows your heart except you and God.

2) Enemy of God

- When we decide to engage in worldly conflict we think we are fighting our enemy.

3) Godly Conflict

“What do you think the Scriptures mean when they say that the spirit God has placed within us is filled with envy? But he gives us even more grace to stand against such evil desires. As the Scriptures say, ‘God opposes the proud but favors the humble.’ So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.”
James 4:5-8 (NLT)

- God doesn't share well with others when it comes to our priorities and our souls.
- Humility is the greatest tool we have to handle conflict in a godly way.
- Humility is when we are promoting God above ourselves.

“And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!”
Philippians 2:8 (NLT)

- Jesus took on humility and promoted God above His life.

Final Challenge

- Get clean and stay close.