



LIFEgroups

Friends with God James 4:1-5

Open

Go around and let everyone answer...

Name one inanimate object you would really, really like to take with you from your collapsing house.

What do you think is behind most fights and quarrels?

Dig

READ: James 4:1-5

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely?

Note: The Spirit, through James, gave this message to people who had committed to following Jesus

Finish this title for this section of scripture:

The Battle between _____ and _____

From this passage, describe what thinking and acting like the world produces.

From this passage, why can't we be friends with the world and friends of God at the same time?

Apply

To enjoy friendship with God, how must your thoughts and actions differ from those who prefer to enjoy the world?

Do: Go home tonight and prayerfully answer these questions: what parts of a worldly life am I trying to hold on to? What does God want for me instead?

Pray thanking God for his grace and mercy when we get too caught up in the things of the world and pray that he will help our desire to do what pleases him to grow so strong it overcome our desires for the things of the world.

Leader

The Main Idea

This week's meeting is about the struggle between deciding to follow the world or follow God.

Series Focus

During this series of "Faith in Motion," sermons and guides focus on practical lessons from the New Testament book of James.

Connecting

Before beginning the discussion, take a moment to let members share highs and lows of their week and pray for one another.

Using Discussion Guides

Review questions in advance and make adjustments that are natural for you or your group. Modify, add, or delete questions as necessary. If discussion is extensive, respect the time commitment without feeling obligated to do all of the questions.

Reaching Out

Consider a few minutes at the beginning or end to talk about potential people your group could reach out to. Pray for God to use each of you to include new people in your group.