

Why All The Fighting And Quarreling?

Legit Faith: All Day, Everyday! Pt. 5

James 4:1-3

May 1, 2016

James 4:1, *What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ²You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. ³When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.*

Four Questions And Answers About Quarreling And Fighting:

1. What Is The SOURCE Of Our Arguments And Fights?

James 4:1, *What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?*

Romans 7:18, *For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.*

2. How Do Our SELFISH DESIRES Affect Our Relationships?

James 4:2, *You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight.*

- Jealousy, Envy, Anger And VIOLENCE

Genesis 37:11, *His brothers were jealous of him...*

3. How Do Our Selfish Desires Affect Our Relationship With God?

James 4:2, *...You do not have because you do not ask God. ³When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.*

4. What Are The Consequences Of Our Arguing And Fighting?

- They Harm Our FAMILIES

Proverbs 15:17, *Better is a dish of vegetables where love is than a fattened ox served with hatred.*

Luke 15:28, *The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him.*

- They Harm Our FRIENDSHIPS

The Disciples argued about who would be greatest (Luke 9:46-48), who would sit at the right and left hand of Jesus (Mark 10:35-41), and Peter and Paul argued about hypocrisy (Galatians 2:11-14).

- They Harm Our Witness And CHURCH

James 3:13, *Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵Such "wisdom" does*

not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

- **They Harm Our CAREERS**

Proverbs 20:3, *It is to one's honor to avoid strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel.*

Take Away:

- For all our guests, we would like to invite you to a Question and Answer time with Pastor John Mark today. We will meet in the Game Plan Center after the 11:00a Worship Service.
- Follow the Pastor's daily blog "www.johnmarkcaton.com" on the book of James. You can also follow it on Twitter @johnmarkcaton or on Facebook at /johnmark.caton.
- Join a Life Group@Church or a Life Group@Home for the next 2 weeks as we study the book of James. To find a Life Group, go to our website at cottonwoodcreek.org/lifegroups. An alternative James class is available on Sundays at 4:15p in room B126.