

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM JAMES 4:4-6

----- The **Bold Questions** are new from last week's Handout. -----

OPEN IT

- What do families and friends commonly fight about?
- If you could ask God for anything, what would it be?
- **What values, motivations, and attitudes typify the world today?**

EXPLORE IT

- 4:1-3 What are the battles going on inside a person? What is the root cause of fights and quarrels between people? Why don't people have what they want? Why doesn't God give some people what they ask for?
- 4:4-6 What does friendship with the world do to our relationship w/ God? Whom does God oppose and favor? When does God give us grace?
- **4:4 How does it affect you to know that God considers your pursuit of selfish goals to be adultery? From your experience and knowledge of the Scriptures, what are some of the symptoms of friendship with the world? Why is friendship with the world equivalent to enmity against God? (Optional: See Luke 16:13; Romans 8:5-8; 1 John 2:15-17; 3:8)**
- **What does Hosea 2:16 say about God's commitment to Israel? What significance does this have for your relationship with God?**
- **4:6 Why do you think James cites Proverbs 3:34? What can we learn from the way James argues from Scripture? What is pride? Why does God give us grace only if we are humble?**

GET IT

- What do most people think God wants from them?
- How has your belief about what God wants changed over time?
- How does pride show up in our work? Home? Church? Community?
- Why does God oppose people who are proud?
- What is the difference between pride and a sense of accomplishment?
- How can a person tell when he or she has become proud?
- How can we reduce or remove the pride from our lives?
- **Can jealousy be a good thing? If so, under what circumstances? What would it mean if God were not jealous for the affections of His people?**
- **In a fast-paced, busy world, how can we give undivided love to God?**
- **In what ways do believers demonstrate pride?**

APPLY IT

- What sins of action and attitude do you need to confess to God today?
- In what situations do you need to resist the devil this week?
- **Where do you find the world's values showing up in your own desires or in the pursuits of those around you?**
- **Think about the reality of God's loyal love for His people and the necessity of our loyal love for Him. How do they relate?**