Women of Grace

Lesson 7 | James 4:1-17

“The Scriptures give many marks of a true Christian, such as love for God, repentance from sin, humility, devotion to God’s glory, prayer, love for others, separation from the world, growth, and obedience. But nothing more clearly summarizes the character of a genuine believer than a desire to do the will of God.” – John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary, James, p. 229

# MEMORIZATION VERSE

**James 1:9**

But the brother of humble circumstances is to glory in his high position…

# DAY 1 | The Dangers of Worldliness | Read James 4 (focusing on vs. 1-6)

1. What impacted you the most from last week’s lesson or lecture? How is God using that to sanctify you?

Type your answer here

1. How does James 4:1–4 connect with what came before in James 3:13–18?

Type your answer here

1. According to James 4:1–3, what reasons are given for conflict, both internally and with others?

Type your answer here

1. From verse 3, what did James say hinders a believer’s prayer?

Type your answer here

* 1. How can you tell the difference between good desires and bad desires?

Type your answer here

* 1. Where might selfishness and wrong motives motivate your own prayer requests?

Type your answer here

1. According to verse 4, what does friendship with the world look like? Why do you think that James likens it to adultery? See also Romans 12:2, 1 Peter 2:11, and 1 John 2:15–17.

Type your answer here

1. Though believers no longer love the world, the battle with sin still exists. In your own life, where do you see evidence of love of the world? What steps can you take to counter that?

Type your answer here

# Day 2 | Draw Near to God | Read James 4:6-10

1. What does verse 6 say about the power and grace of God?

Type your answer here

* 1. What are some evidences of pride?

Type your answer here

* 1. Where do you see evidence of pride in your own life? How can you use what you’ve learned in James to fight against it?

Type your answer here

1. In verses 7–8, what specific instructions does James give to fight pride? In your own words, explain what that means, using Scripture to support your answer.

Type your answer here

* 1. How do Psalm 24:3–4, Psalm 63, and Ephesians 6:10–18 deepen your understanding of James’ exhortation?

Type your answer here

1. In James 4:9, what instruction about responding to sin does James give to believers? List two other references that support this.

Type your answer here

1. In verse 10, what promise is given? What do you think that means?

Type your answer here

# Day 3 | Don’t Slander | Read James 4:11

1. In James 4:11, what command is given?

Type your answer here

* 1. Use a dictionary to define “slander.” How does slandering make one a judge of the law?

Type your answer here

1. From verse 11, what do you think James wanted to emphasize by the repetition of “brethren” or “brother?”

Type your answer here

1. How do Matthew 7:1–5 and Galatians 5:15 increase your understanding of the meaning of slander and judging others?

Type your answer here

1. Does the command against slandering and judging mean one should not expose sin? See Proverbs 10:18, 1 Corinthians 4:14, Ephesians 4:31, and Colossians 1:28.

Type your answer here

1. In James 4:12, what is revealed about God’s character and work? How does that relate to verse 11?

Type your answer here

# Day 4 | Living According to God’s Will | Read James 4:13-17

1. Do you think it’s wrong to make plans for the future and/or to talk about those plans? Why or why not?

Type your answer here

* 1. What mindset is revealed when we talk like those in James 4:13?

Type your answer here

1. According to verse 14, why should we not boast about our lives?

Type your answer here

* 1. How should this effect one’s view of life?

Type your answer here

1. What do Luke 12:13–21, Proverbs 27:1, and Isaiah 46:9–10 teach about a believer’s priorities, wealth, and certainties in life?

Type your answer here

1. According to Ephesians 5:17–21, 1 Thessalonians 4:3–8, 1 Peter 2:13–15, and 1 Peter 3:17, what is God’s revealed will for believers?

Type your answer here

1. In light of James 4:17, what things do you knowingly neglect in your own walk with God? What steps can you take to do what is right, and will you purpose to do that this week?

Type your answer here

# Day 5 | The Big Picture | Read James 4:1-17

1. How did you see God’s character revealed specifically in James 4? How does this impact your own worship of Him, and your walk with Him?

Type your answer here

1. How does resisting worldliness and submitting to God’s will relate to wisdom?

Type your answer here

1. A believer must carefully study and know Scripture in order to walk in obedience to God. Evaluate your own habits of biblical growth in the following areas and what needs to change.
   1. time spent each week hearing God’s Word read, preached, and taught

Type your answer here

* 1. time spent reading God’s Word on your own

Type your answer here

* 1. time spent studying God’s Word, digging deeper into specific passages

Type your answer here

* 1. time spent memorizing God’s word

Type your answer here

* 1. time spent meditating on God’s Word as it permeates deeply into your heart and mind

Type your answer here

**James 4:1–17**

I. Worldliness leads to War (vv. 1–5)

II. Flee from the World and Draw Near to God (vv. 6–10)

III. Worldliness Leads to Arrogance (vv. 11–17)

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