



**JAMES:  
FAITH  
IN ACTION**





# ***CONFLICT & GRACE***

**James 4:1 – 12**

# **The Source of Conflict**

For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there is disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peace-loving, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without pretense. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who cultivate peace. What is the source of wars and fights among you? Don't they come from your passions that wage war within you? You desire and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain.

# The Source of Conflict

You fight and wage war. You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and don't receive because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. You adulterous people! Don't you know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? So whoever wants to be the friend of the world becomes the enemy of God. Or do you think it's without reason that the Scripture says: The spirit he made to dwell in us envies intensely?

James 3:16-4:5 CSB

# **Conflict is devastating to me and to others.**

You have heard that it was said to our ancestors, Do not murder, and whoever murders will be subject to the judgment. But I tell you, everyone who is angry with his brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Whoever insults his brother or sister will be subject to the court. Whoever says, "you fool," will be subject to hell-fire.

Matthew 5:21-22 CSB

# **The Source of Grace**

But he gives greater grace. Therefore he says: God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.

James 4:6 CSB

**God's grace gives us a  
better way to do life.**

# **Receiving God's grace starts with humility.**

Though the Lord is exalted, he takes note of the humble; but he knows the haughty from a distance. Psalm 138:6 CSB

He mocks those who mock but gives grace to the humble. Proverbs 3:34 CSB

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ: To the twelve tribes dispersed abroad. Greetings. James 1:1 CSB

**“Being a slave meant willingly following an express command when given, and in the absence of a command, it meant doing whatever you could to please the master.”**

**Murray Harris**  
**A Slave of Christ**

# Living in Grace, Not Conflict

Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be miserable and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. Don't criticize one another, brothers and sisters. Anyone who defames or judges a fellow believer defames and judges the law. If you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

James 4:7-12 CSB

**Pursuing Jesus starts with an internal evaluation and leads to outward change.**

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Matthew 5:3-4 CSB

**Understanding that Jesus is the wisdom of God, is the message of the gospel.**

It is from him that you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom from God for us—our righteousness, sanctification, and redemption—

1 Corinthians 1:30 CSB

# **You don't have to run very far to find Him.**

let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water.

Hebrews 10:22 CSB

The Lord is near all who call out to him, all who call out to him with integrity.

Psalms 145:18 CSB

From one man he has made every nationality to live over the whole earth and has determined their appointed times and the boundaries of where they live. He did this so that they might seek God, and perhaps they might reach out and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.

Acts 17:26-27CSB