

James: Practical Discipleship for Everyone

4. James 4

Aim: To consider the root issues of relationship breakdown and how to address them God's way.

freedom and hope Jesus offers to us (1 John 1.8-9). Play or sing a song about grace and forgiveness.

1. Read chapter 4 a couple of times, out loud once and individually a second time.
2. In groups, work out the logic of the argument here. (e.g. Conflict is due to coveting which is due to worldly attitudes which resist God's spirit in us. WHEREAS we should humble ourselves, submit to God and his will, resist the devil's lies and temptations, and repent of (mourn) our pride, which is revealed in judging one another, in making our own plans as if we're the Lord and in boasting in our ambitions.)
3. It is said that, 'I' is in the middle of 'pride' and at the heart of 'sin'... James rebukes the pride of Christian believers, evidenced in conflicts, judging one another, planning for selfish gain and boasting. Privately consider, is there any similar or different evidence of pride in your life that James would rebuke? How does it show itself?
4. Why does humility build up God's people and how might we foster humility personally and as a community?
5. James commands Christians to humble themselves and repent. How does one repent? What is a good way to go about it? Share your understanding and/or experience of this process with one another.
6. Spend some time as individuals (with pen and paper perhaps) asking God to help you repent and submit yourself to him in faith once again. Thank him for the cross and the