

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

James 4:1-10

For Starting

- Try the 'Think Outside the Box Challenge' overleaf.
- What is the best advice you ever received?
- Imagine you are on a plane – and it is about to crash! The pilot encourages everyone that, if they believe in God, they should start to pray. What prayer would you say? Why?
- What is your favourite Bible verse/s about prayer?

For Reviewing

- What does James say is the source of quarrels (v.1-2)?
- How can a Christian pray wrongly (v.3)? What might be some examples of right and wrong praying?
- What one-word description is given to a Christian who has been seduced by the world (v.4)?
- What does James say is the relationship between grace and pride (v.6)?
- List the THREE suggestions that James gives for humbling ourselves before God (v.7-10).
- What is the result of humbling ourselves before God (v.10b)?

For Discussion

- James starts with a question (v.1). How would you answer it?
- What are some of the reasons why Christians argue and fight against each other today?
- Why do you think it is often easy for a Christian to be drawn away into friendship with the world?
- How would you advise a fellow Christian who may be drifting away into 'worldly' friendships?
- Are there situations in your life where Godly humility could help you become a source of peace? Explain.
- "*The purpose of prayer is not to get man's will done in heaven, but to get God's will done on earth*". Do you agree? Why/why not?
- You could end by reading together James 4:7

James 4:1-10 (NIVUK)

Submit yourselves to God

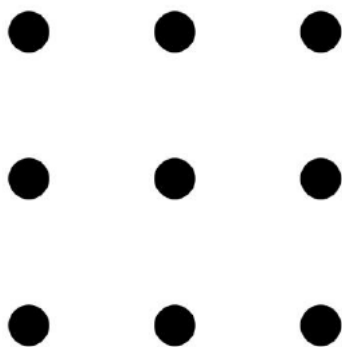
¹ What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ² You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive,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

⁴ You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred towards God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely? ⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

“God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble.”

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Think Outside the Box Challenge



Connect all the dots
using only FOUR straight lines,
and *without* taking the pen off the
paper!