

AVOIDING ARGUMENTS
DEVELOPING A FAITH THAT WORKS – PART 10

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PRAISE REPORTS - PRAYER REQUESTS - OPENING PRAYER

Read James 4:1-10

I. THE CAUSE OF ARGUMENTS: C _____ D _____

"What causes fights and quarrels among you?

Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?" (v. 1)

THE THREE STAGES OF ALL SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIPS

STAGE 1 H _____ H _____

STAGE 2 **THE** P _____ O _____

STAGE 3 L _____ M _____ A D _____

THREE DESIRES

1. The Desire to H _____ (Possessions)

"You want what you don't have ... you long for what others have ..." (vs. 2 LB)

2. The Desire to F _____ (Pleasure)

"... you want only what will give you pleasure" (vs. 3b LB)

3. The Desire to B _____ (Pride & Power)

"Pride leads to arguments ..." Prov. 13:10 (LB)

WHY AREN'T OUR DESIRES FULFILLED?

1A. WE DON'T P _____

"You do not have, because you do not ask God.

1B. S _____ M _____

When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives..." (vs. 2-3)

2. C _____ **WITH GOD (vs. 4-6)**

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (vs. 6)

II. THE CURE FOR ARGUMENTS: H _____

"God ... gives grace to the humble.

Humble yourself before the Lord, and He will lift you up." (vs. 6 & 10)

STEPS TO DEFUSING CONFLICT

1. G _____ I _____ **TO GOD**

"Submit yourselves then to God ..." (v. 7a)

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart." Colossians 3:15

2. G _____ W _____ **TO SATAN**

"Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (v.7b)

"In order that Satan might not outwit us, we are not unaware of his schemes." 2 Corinthians 2:11

3. G _____ C _____ **TO GOD**

"Come near to God and He will come near to you." (vs. 8a)

"He will keep in perfect peace all those who trust in Him, whose thoughts turn often to the Lord." Is. 26:3

4. B _____ W _____ **TO ASK FORGIVENESS**

"Wash your hands ... purify your hearts ..." (vs. 8b)

"Let there be tears for the wrong you've done." (vs. 9 LB)

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility, consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ." Philippians 2:3-5