

## NEW TESTAMENT WRITERS

# JAMES

**Pray:** ask God to open your mind, soul and spirit to His teaching through His Word

**Think:** the questions are designed to expand your knowledge of God and His Word

**Begin:** using only your Bible, answer the questions\* without other outside sources

*\*questions are based on New International Version (NIV)*

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### Lesson 11 – James 4

December 9, 2009

1. Describe how the topics of James 3:18 and James 4:1–2 relate to one another.
  
2.
  - a) What are the general and specific “desires that battle within you” (James 4:1)? See Romans 7:21–25 for more insight.
  
  - b) According to James 4:2–3, what is the result of these battles and why? (This is a 2 part question).
  
  - c) Identify requests for which you repeatedly pray. If you don't pray, identify requests for which you repeatedly wish. What are the motives behind these requests?
  
3.
  - a) What do you think is “friendship with the world” and with what is friendship with the world equated in James 4:4? See Romans 12:2 and 1 John 2:15–17 for some Biblical insight.
  
  - b) How does your life reflect your friendship with the world?

- c) How does your life reflect your friendship with God?
4. a) What is God's response to our hatred and enmity of Him in James 4:5–6?
- b) Describe **your** response to hatred and enmity directed at you, family members, and God. (Mentally compare your response to God's response in question 4(a)—and recall Ephesians 5:1–2, the command to be imitators of God). For what changes, if any, will you pray?
- c) What must we do, and how must we be to receive grace according to James 4:6? (Tricky question!)
5. a) List verbs (and needed subjects) to describe the actions we are commanded to take as a result of your answer in question 4(a).
- b) Describe how you have or will implement each action in your life.
- c) What are the actions of God listed in James 4:8–10?
6. What is the intent of James 4:9? Are believers of Jesus Christ supposed to live like Eeyore of Winnie the Pooh? Why or why not? Read Proverbs 14:13, Matthew 5:3–12 and Luke 6:20–26.
7. a) Define “slander” and “speaks against” in James 4:11.
- b) Why is “speaking against his brother” equated with speaking against the law and judging it in James 4:11? Read Matthew 22:34–40 for additional insight.

- c) As believers in Jesus, is there ever a place for judging? Back up your answer with Scripture. (Here are a few: 1 Corinthians 5:1–5, 9–13; 1 Corinthians 6:1–8).
8. a) Do you think James 4:13–15 admonishes us against planning ahead? If yes, back up your answer with other Scripture. If no, what do you think is the intent of these verses?
- b) How are James 4:13–14 examples of boasting and bragging (James 4:16), and how do you see this type of arrogance in your own life?
- c) Write an unchanging truth you learned from studying James 4:13–17.