

Faith that Works

April 15, 2007

“Playing Well With Others”

James 4:1-3

Introduction:

Relational conflict is a part of life. But why is that? Today we will learn about the root of conflict, as well as the remedy.

Interpretation:

- Desires _____ lead to _____ relationships and _____ prayers?

Application:

Going Deeper

1. How might America's declaration that the "pursuit of happiness" is an inalienable right conflict with Christianity? (Luke 8:14, Luke 14:27, Matthew 16:24)
2. Do you see the American democratic ideal of the "pursuit of happiness" negatively affecting the American Church? If so, how?
3. Do you see the secular philosophy of hedonism ("If it feels good, do it") infiltrating the church? How is it affecting Christians? (James 4:1-3, 1 John 2:15-17)
4. Considering the story of Cain killing Abel, what can we learn about the importance of avoiding sinful attitudes and actions in our lives? (Genesis 4:1-16, Matthew 5:21-26, James 1:13-15)
5. What desires do you "battle within" (James 4:1), in order to preserve your relationships with others?
6. What "wrong motives" might be the reason for unanswered prayer in your life? (James 4:3)
7. How does Jesus' parable of The Wedding Banquet illustrate God's longing to share with us his joy? (Matthew 22:1-14, Matthew 25:23, John 15:11, James 1:17)

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