



**Life Group Discussion Guide  
Faith in Practice**

**How does faith work in relational conflict? - James 4:1-12**

Scott Paulson - June 4, 2023

Main thought:

The cause of relational conflict with others and with God comes from within us. By God's grace we can live differently; humbly submitting ourselves to God and not slandering others.

Notes:

**Recognizing and resolving relational conflict**

Relational difficulty with **people** (vv. 1-3)

Relational difficulty with **God** (vv. 4-6)

Responding differently to **God** (vv. 7-10)

Responding differently to **people** (vv. 11-12)

**Slander defined**

Any derogatory statement, true or untrue, to diminish and/or harm another person, intentionally or unintentionally

**Humble people...**

- Examine their own **faults**.
- Are slow to speak of other's **faults**.
- **Stick** with others and don't quickly **separate** when it's hard.
- Are **flexible** rather than **dogmatic**.
- Aren't afraid of **confronting**, but they don't like it.
- Don't sit in **self-pity**.

Group Discussion:

Ice-Breaker

Share the first thing that comes to your mind of a fun/favorite summer childhood memory.

Verse of the week

What is a verse or truth from God's Word that has stood out to you this week from your personal Bible reading?

Digging In

Read James 4:1-12, and discuss the following questions.

- What stood out to you from this passage?



- What does James point to as a cause for relational conflict? Why is this important to recognize? (vv. 1-2)
- Why does James say we don't ask God? And when we do ask God our prayers aren't answered? What prevents this according to James? (v. 3)
- Why and how does friendship with the world cause conflict and enmity between us and God? (vv. 4-6)
- How can we live differently and avoid relational difficulties according to James?
- Why is humility such a critical characteristic when addressing relational conflict?

#### Application

- What key take-away will you apply from the passage this week?

#### Praying as a group

- How can we be praying for each other this week?