

August 17th–23rd

Lesson 10: James 4:1–10

THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM

1. Contrast the atmosphere between verse 1 and James 3:18.
2. What causes us to fight and quarrel (verses 1–2)?
3. What do verses 2 and 3 tell us are the wrong motives for prayer? What would you say is the right motive for prayer?
4. Describe a time in your life when you have done and experienced something James describes in verses 1–3.
5. What two friendships cannot coexist (verses 4–5)?

What does “friendship with the world” mean to you?

Why is friendship with the world equivalent to hatred toward God? (See also Luke 16:13; Romans 8:5–8; 1 John 2:15–17, 3:8.)

6. God provides grace for us to overcome our envy, craving for pleasure, and consequent quarreling. He offers us abundant grace to respond to him with full devotion. Why does He give this grace only if we are humble, never if we are proud?
7. List the action verbs in verses 7–10. Why do you think submission is named first?
8. How would you summarize James’s main point in verses 1–10? How will you apply this main point to your life?