

8: James

Accompanies the 5/30/21 Sermon

PREPARE YOUR HEART AND MIND

Open in prayer: Pray that as you reflect on today's scripture that God prepares your heart and mind. Pray for the ability to understand and apply its truths to your life.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures together and then use the questions below (or any you wish to add) to discuss the text and unpack its meaning.



Have someone in your group read **James 4:1-12**

*Reading **Matthew 5:3-25** will enrich your understanding and discussion*

- At first reading how does this scripture strike you?
- This text is making a contrast of desires and motivation. According to James what are the opposing motivations that the early church had?
- How is this section connected with the previous section of James (3:13-18)
- Why would James use words like "murder, adultery and enmity (*hostility towards God*)" in this section?
- How can "desiring and coveting" be so destructive?

GETTING PRACTICAL

Discuss the following questions together as a group; be willing to share how challenges and trials have affected your life.

1. James asks a question in vs 4:1. How would you answer that same question today?
2. According to this section what are some keyways we can check our motivations?
3. James' challenge is to the early church to repent for desiring the things of this world. Is there anything you need to repent for that is leading you to have selfish desires?