

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

JAMES

These questions are for the **August 9, 2015 Sermon**, "The War Within" Please read the sermon passage (James 4:1-10) together out loud.

Sermon Outline:

1. **Note the various conflicts which believers will face (1-3)**
 - A. Wisdom from above is in direct opposition with wisdom from below.
 - B. When we try to hold to both we will divide our own hearts.
 - C. With a divided heart, it's only a matter of time until we experience broken relationships.
2. **Note the abundant grace which believers always need (4-6)**
 - A. If your future looks hard, don't worry, there is more grace from God to come!
 - B. God's grace flows from wisdom which comes from above.
3. **Note the spiritual safeguards which believers must establish (7-10)**
 - A. Do you rule over your desires? Or do your desires rule over you?
 - B. An ever-increasing desire for an ever-diminishing pleasure is the definition of addiction.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Where have you begun to let wisdom from below impact the way you think about life? (In the area of relationships, sex, money or entertainment, for instance.) How has this co-mingling of wisdom led to stressful or broken relationships?
2. Based on #1, above: We often ask for things from God that are completely selfish. What are you asking from God right now that is completely selfish? How can we pray for you?
3. Based on #2, above: We want control and certainty when it comes to our future. But in God's wisdom, we don't get the kind of control that we want. Interact with this statement: the only promise we have about our future is that God's grace will be there for us (v. 6). How is that hard for you? How is that so good for you?
4. Based on #3, above: Do you have an ever-growing obsession or hobby that is taking up more and more of your time or money?
5. How can being fully devoted to wisdom which comes from above put an end to divisions and inconsistencies in your own thinking and desires?