

11 -WEEK STUDY IN THE BOOK OF JAMES

WEEK 8

“Grace”

James 4:1-6

WEEKLY READING

Primary text from this week: James 4:1-6

Secondary text from this week: Hosea 1-3

Bonus Reading from this week: Jeremiah 3 and Ezekiel 16 (warning: graphic)

GETTING STARTED

Goals for this session: To understand what James tells us about our priorities and about God's grace

Missed the sermon? Watch it at www.youtube.com/venturamissionary

Break the Ice: When you were growing up, who did you fight with the most?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **James 4:1-2** explains why we fight and quarrel. Do you agree with James? What are some other reasons we fight and quarrel?
2. In **James 4:3**, James reveals that we often come to God with false motives. What do you think are some of the wrong motives that often drive our prayers?
3. When you read **James 4:4**, what comes to mind? Is this a hard passage for you to read? Why or why not?
4. Of all the ways for the Biblical authors to illustrate mankind's unfaithfulness to God, why do you think they so often chose this adultery metaphor?
5. Summarize the story of Hosea and Gomer that Pastor Doug shared (**Hosea 1-3**). Read God's words of restoration in **Hosea 2:23**. What does this reveal to us about God?
6. Much of James theology echoes the words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount found in **Matthew 5-7**. Read Jesus' words in **Matthew 6:24** and compare it to what we've studied in **James 4**. What do you notice?
7. Mercy is often described as "not getting what we deserve," while grace is described as "getting what we don't deserve." Why is **James 4:6** such an important reminder for Christians?
8. What was one thing we haven't discussed that resonated with you as you listened to Pastor Doug's message?

