

"Why Do We Fight? – James 4:1-12"

June 8-9, 2013

For Starters

1. Recall the Top Ten Reasons Couples Fight. What do you recall about the topic and situation about your first marital fight or disagreement? Was it similar to the Top Ten?
2. Refer to James 3:14-18. There are two kinds of wisdom (Highway or God's Way) noted in these verses. What are the characteristics of each? How do these verses help us understand why we fight?

Digging In

3. Read James 4:1-3. Describe a time when you sensed that a legitimate desire seemed to go unmet and you found yourself making demands. In what way may you have taken matters into your own hands? What was the result?
4. What is the significance of the word "adulterous" used in verse 4? What meaning and implications does this term have for the fighting/discord we experience in relationships?
5. Discuss the 10 imperatives James gives in verses 7-10. How do we practically submit ourselves to God? In what ways will our behaviors and attitudes be changed in the area of personal conflict if we do these things?

Bringing it Home

6. Review the Seven A's of Confession:
 1. Address Everyone You've Affected
 2. Avoid using the words if (sorry), but, and maybe
 3. Admit Specifically
 4. Acknowledge the Hurt
 5. Accept the Consequences
 6. Alter Your Behavior
 7. Ask for Forgiveness

What one or more of these A's is most difficult for you to ask? What one would be most meaningful for you to receive?

Digging Deeper: Do you sense you need to confess anything specific to God? Is there a family member or friend you sense the Lord wants you to practice the Seven A's with?

BELONGING TO A SMALL GROUP IS A GREAT WAY TO GROW SPIRITUALLY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN A GROUP OR GET MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT R.D. McClenagan at rmcclenagan@doorcreekchurch.org.