

Sunday, February 6, 2022

Sermon Series:
James: A Practical Faith that Works

Title: *“An Honest Look at Conflict”*

Text: James 4:1-3

Pastor Perry Kallis



Big Idea: The tendency toward conflict is so common that believers must be honest about its sources and effects if we want to find godly resolutions.

1) **The source of conflicts affects my walk with me.** (James 4:1 / Matthew 7:3)

The single greatest barrier to conflict resolution is “RTL” or REMOVING THE LOG from ourselves.

2) **The seriousness of conflicts affects my walk with others.** (James 4:2 / Matthew 5:22)

Any conflict I allow to fester will always distract me from God’s best for myself and others.

3) **The selfishness of conflicts affects my walk with God.**

(James 4:3 / Hebrews 13:5 / Ephesians 3:20)

Bowing my head without bowing my heart will not help me arrive at God’s will.

The answer to conflict is not getting more stuff in my life, but submitting to more of God in my life.

In the long run, God’s sovereign answers are always better than our limited requests.

Study/Application Questions and Actions:

1) What is, in retrospect, one of the silliest feuds in which you’ve been involved? What is the difference between a silly and serious conflict?

2) When does wanting something become sinful in a conflict? How can we judge when our hearts are being selfish with a personal desire?

3) Read Matthew 5:22 to see how seriously Jesus takes our anger. Why does He compare anger to murder? What do they have in common?

4) What personal disciplines might help believers toward God’s will with more intensity than their own passions?

5) List some examples of when God’s answers to your prayers turned out to be much better than your requests.