Oct 29 & Nov 1, 2026
Battlefield
Brad White

James | Faith That Works – Week 7
“A Look in the Mirror”

James 4:1 (NIV)
What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you?

Proverbs 16:5 (NIV)
The Lord detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 16:18 (NIV)
Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

James 4:1-2 (NIV)
What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? 2 You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God.

James 4:3 (NIV)
When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

Two Prayers God Will Answer:

1. Prayer for Wisdom
   James 1:5 (NIV)
   If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

2. Prayer for a Chance to Share Your Faith
   Colossians 4:3 (NIV)
   And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

James 4:4 (NIV)
You adulterous people, don’t you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

What areas of my life am I compromising and ignoring truth and believing lies to obey my flesh?

Pride Test

1. I often become defensive when someone corrects me instead of listening and learning.

2. I secretly compare myself to others and sometimes feel better about myself when they fail or struggle.

3. I feel disappointed or frustrated when my efforts go unnoticed or unrecognized.

4. I find it difficult to apologize and often make excuses rather than quickly admitting when I am wrong.

5. I struggle to believe that others have wisdom or insight that I can learn from.

6. I tend to reject criticism immediately instead of prayerfully considering whether it may be true.

7. I usually believe my way is the best way and struggle to trust others or delegate responsibility.

8. I think more about being served or what I will receive than about how I can serve others.

9. I often live as though I can handle life on my own instead of regularly seeking God's guidance through prayer.

10. When something goes well, I want the recognition rather than giving credit to God and those who helped me.

James 4:5-10 (NIV)
Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? [6] But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."
[7] Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. [8] Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. [9] Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. [10] Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

1. Submit to God

2. Resist evil

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)
No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

3. When temptation comes, find the way of escape.

James 4:11 (NIV)
Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.

James 4:12 (NIV)
There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?

Matthew 7:3-5 (NIV)
"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? [4] How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? [5] You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

4. When we are tempted to point the finger, we take the mirror and look in.

Romans 6:23 (NIV)
For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.