

The Heart's Desires

Read James 4:1-10, Titus 2:11-14, then briefly consider the questions below.

This week in Sunday School the children will learn that the world and its sinful desires can lead us away from God. The narrative of our culture is to embrace these desires, to always be seeking more. However, experience has shown this way of living pulls our hearts further from God and only leads to a continuing thirst for more. As Pastor Chuck preached this past Sunday, our world is in need of *living water* to quench the thirst of our hearts (John 4:10).

At the beginning of our passage, James refers to worldly passions as being at “*war*” within us (James 4:1).

- What imagery comes to mind with this terminology?

- Why do you think James chose to use such strong language?

Look up the following verses and note what each adds to your understanding of the “war” within us.

- 1 Peter 2:11-

- Galatians 5:17-

- Galatians 5:24-

Thankfully, we are not left to fight this battle on our own.

- According to verse 6, what does God give us as we fight?

- How does Ephesians 6:10-18, give us confidence as we walk into battle?

Let's pray:

Father, our hearts are sinful and full of worldly desires. We do not always seek you and your kingdom. Please help us to stand strong in this battle, and find our confidence in knowing that we do not fight alone. Thank you for equipping us and for giving us grace when we fail.

In Your Name we pray,

Amen.