



LESSON 11 - JAMES 4:4-10 (STUDENT)

1. What changes did you make as a result of applying last week's lesson?
2. Read James 4:4-10. Summarize this section with one sentence. How does it relate to the previous paragraph?
3. What common Old Testament metaphor does James use in verse 4 to rebuke his readers? Look up Hosea 9:1; Jeremiah 3; Isaiah 54:5-8. Why did the Old Testament Prophets refer to Israel in this way? What had they done? What does God call them to do?
4. Similarly, how does the Bride of Christ (the true, universal Church today) engage in friendship with the world, thereby committing spiritual adultery? See Romans 12:1-2; 1 Timothy 5:11; Galatians 1:6-10; 1 John 2:15-16; and Revelation 2:1-5 to help frame your answer.
5. Sadly when a Christian desires to be friends with the world, who will she inevitably be hostile toward?

6. The warning James gives in verse 4 is very relevant today. When we have friendship with the world, we are like an unfaithful wedded wife who leaves her husband and seeks out other idols to satisfy her heart. Place a check mark next to some typical idols you serve in your own life that assist you in turning your back on God. You may be surprised at the "friends" you hold dear.

I must:

- Have respect
- Have recognition
- Have happiness
- Have a life that is free from pain and difficulty
- Have my own way and I'm not getting it
- Have comfort
- Have success/succeed
- Be treated fairly
- Have a spouse who is affectionate
- Have children who are obedient
- Have a clean house
- Have others who conform to my schedule
- Fill in your own "must have": _____

7. According to verse 10, how does God feel towards us when we are an unfaithful bride and why (Exodus 20:5)?

Note: "This difficult phrase is best understood by seeing the 'spirit' as reference not to the Holy Spirit but to the human spirit, and translating the phrase 'yearns jealously' in the negative sense of 'lusts to envy.' "¹

8. When the world competes for our love for God and we find ourselves struggling with self-centeredness resulting in a divided loyalty, what does God continually give when we come to him in humility (James 4:6, Proverbs 3:34; Isaiah 66:2; 1 Peter 1:13; Hebrews 4:16)?

9. Does God's abundant grace toward us mean that we can think lightly of our sin? How does James answer that question in verses 7-12?

In light of God's abundant grace, I must:

Submit to _____ (v. 7)

Resist the _____ (v.7) Draw near to _____ (v. 8)

Cleanse my _____ and purify my _____ (v. 8)

Be _____ and _____ and _____ (v. 8)

Let my _____ be turned into _____ and my _____ to _____ (v. 9)

Humble _____ before the _____ of the _____ (v. 10)

Do not _____ evil against one _____ (v. 11)

10. Worldliness leaves everyone feeling dirty or polluted. What does James give as the external and internal solution for repentance in verse 8?

External: _____ your _____

Internal: _____ your _____

11. Look up the definition of each word below from verse 9. What does it mean to have genuine sorrow over the sins you listed? Then read Psalm 51. How does David's repentance reflect the three words below?

English Word	Greek Word/Strong's Number	Biblical Definition
Miserable		

Mourn		
Weep		

12. When we do come to God in humility and repentance, how is Psalm 32:1-7 and 1 John 1:9 a comfort to those who are in Christ?

13. In verse 10, James says that the Lord will exalt the believer should he humble himself before Him. What does that mean? See Job 5:11; Psalm 113:7-8; and Ezekiel 21:26 to help you with your answer.

APPLICATION:

When we find that we are entrapped by worldliness, there is an external as well as an internal cleansing that needs to take place in the believer's life. On the one hand, we purposely withdraw from things that make us dirty ("cleanse our hands"), but we must also mortify the idols that reside in our hearts ("purify our hearts").

In the chart below, list the sin you currently see in your life. What Christ-like behavior are you commanded to "put on" in its place? What Scripture verses can you renew your mind with and commit to memory as you seek to repent of your sin for the glory of God? Also as you read through the Scriptures, don't get solely focused just on the "put off/put on" directive; remind yourself from the Scripture what the motivation for change should be. Finally, put feet to the truth; how can you live out the "new self"? (See illustration on line 1)

CLEANSE YOUR HANDS/PURIFY YOUR HEARTS

Sin to put off: (Old Self)	Christ-like behavior to put on: (New Self)	Scripture verse to renew my mind with:	Practical living in a manner worthy of my calling:	Motivation to change: (Find the Gospel in your passage)
Eph. 4:22	Eph. 4:24	Eph. 4:23	Eph. 4:1	
Sinful anger toward my husband and children	Kindness, tenderheartedness, and forgiveness	Eph. 4:31-32	When I sense that I am about to get angry, I will stop, walk away, and: 1. Remind myself of my memory verse 2. Pray for wisdom 3. Choose to walk in tenderheartedness toward ...	God in Christ has forgiven me (Eph. 4:32)

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How can this lesson assist you in training your children to acknowledge his or her sin rather than focusing on behavior modification?