



Have you ever wondered how a relationship that started out so good got so messy and difficult? In this series from the book of James, *Relationslips*, we'll identify five lies that will ruin relationships. We'll also discover God's truth, that when believed and applied to our lives, will set us free and bring peace and joy to our relationships.

1. If you asked someone on the street, "What do you think is the reason people have quarrels and conflicts?" What do you think they would say?
2. Now read James 4:1-10. According to v.1, what is the source of our quarrels and conflicts? The origin of humans acting this way started in the Garden of Eden by believing the lie that says, "If I just had _____, then I would be happy." When have you believed this lie?
3. According to vv.2, what do we do when we don't get what we selfishly desire?
4. Looking at vv.2b - 3 ,what two different strategies do we use to try and get what we want to make us happy?
5. Can you identify a time when your selfish desire for something or someone led to a conflict? Explain.
6. According to vv.4-6, what does God call a Christian who believes the lie of selfish desires? How does this make us adulterers?
7. Can you give examples of how our world operates on this lie? According to v.5 if we are friends of the world and buy into this lie, what does that make us?
8. B/c God is jealous for those who have his Spirit in them, and because of his grace, what will he do if we are proud and persist in our selfish desires?
9. Rather than be opposed by God because of our selfish pride we need to humble ourselves. What 9 commands do we need to obey to be humble before God and to bring peace to our relationship with him and others with whom we've had conflict? Describe what each of these look like lived out.
10. What will you do in response to this to humble yourself before God and those with whom you have conflict?