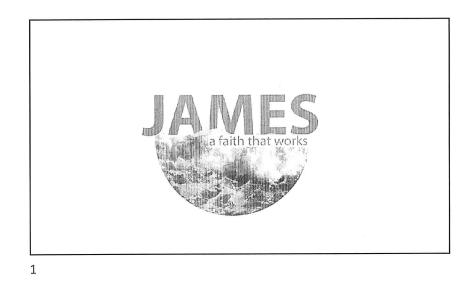
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James 4:1-12	
"The Pursuit of Pleasure"	

The main point of James 4:1-12 is that we'll always be frustrated by self-seeking pleasure.

Or stated another way, "Pursuing worldly pleasure destroys our opportunity to truly please God."

Instead of fighting to obtain life's pleasures, why not pray to God? (4:1-3)

- Disharmony is a reality in every arena of life (4:1a).
- Disharmony stems from the basic selfish demand for pleasure (4:1b).
- Disharmony is antithetical to prayerful dependence on God (4:2).
- Disharmony is one result of improper motivation in prayer (4:3).

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Instead of trying to be a friend of the world, why not become a friend of God? (4:4-6)

- It's impossible to claim friendship with the world and with God at the same time (4:4).
- God lovingly and jealously longs for your devoted friendship (4:5).
- God graciously uplifts those who are humble (4:6).

Instead of pursuing Satan's path, why not submit humbly to God? (4:7-10)

- A satisfying life is one that submits to God (4:7).
- A satisfying life is one that draws near to God (4:8-9).
- A satisfying life is one that humbles itself before God (4:10).

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Instead of harboring a judgmental attitude, why not apply the law of love? (4:11-12)

- When we judge others, we elevate ourselves above God's law (4:11).
- When we judge others, we elevate ourselves above God's Lordship (4:12).

The main point of James 4:1-12 is that we'll always be frustrated by self-seeking pleasure.

Or stated another way, "Pursuing worldly pleasure destroys our opportunity to truly please God."

> Pastor Dana L. Goodnough Pittsford, NY (6/26/22

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