

THE BOOK OF JAMES

Congratulations. You're over halfway done with James. Let's do a little review. Here are some questions from past studies – do you remember what you talked about?

Who was the brother of James?

What sort of "religion" does James challenge us to live out?

In what sort of situations is it most difficult for you to hold your tongue?

This brings us to today's passage, **James 4:1-12**. Read it out loud together, and then just comment on this question: **WHAT STANDS OUT TO YOU?** Is there something confusing? Something you like?

WOW. There is so much to talk about in this passage....

ALL PLAY: Who do you quarrel with the most? Over what?

How do you usually react when you don't get what you want?

What does James say are the reasons most of us get into fights?
Look at verses 4:1-3



Read **EPHESIANS 4:25-27** as well to get a handle on how we should deal with anger as followers of Christ.

Re-read verses 4-5. What do you think it means to be “**a friend of the world**”? Aren't we supposed to be friendly to other people?

How are you “**a friend of the world**” in your daily life? Look at 4:7-10. Where do you need to resist the devil and submit to God? **BE SPECIFIC.** Pray for each other.

LEADERS' GUIDE

Make sure you spend time going over this study before you study it with the students. **Please don't show them this leader's guide, or have them download the study ahead of time from the website, since this guide is included in the lesson.**

If you don't finish it all this week, it's fine to extend it. Just don't drag it out – otherwise, they'll get sick of the Book of James before they even get to the good stuff!

Encourage them to each bring a Bible. Help them get one if they do not have one, or just own a “little kid” Bible from their childhood.

Ask them to:

1. Write their name on their copy of the study.
2. Bring the study back each week.

THIS WEEK'S DISCUSSION:

Answers to the opening review questions:

1. Who was the brother of James? Jesus – study #1
2. What sort of religion does James challenge us to live out? Go back to study #7, James 1:26-27.
3. In what sort of situations is it most difficult for you to hold your tongue? Study #9, James 3:1-12

TOTALLY OPTIONAL:

If you want, you can rent **Happy Gilmore** and show them a clip before you read James 4:1-12. You always want to be careful with film clips – especially if you're dealing with younger students (i.e., 7th-9th grade). You want to make sure you are not seen as endorsing the film (some parents get a little frustrated if they think we're encouraging their children to watch PG-13 movies). Plus, some parents have VERY strict standards on what movies they allow their children to watch. So I would recommend running it by parents if you have younger students.

Start around 22:45 into the movie, where the dialogue starts with Happy's coach Chubbs telling him, “All right. Remember what I said, eh?” It ends with Chubbs hitting him on the head after Happy takes his anger out on a nearby spectator. **(Obviously, cue it up and screen it beforehand...)**

Re-read verses 4-5. What do you think it means to be “a friend of the world”? Aren't we supposed to be friendly to other people? *Get them to go back to study #3, where there was a discussion of Worldly wisdom vs. Godly wisdom. Help them to see a connection – Go to 1John 2:15-17, where there is a good “definition” of what the Bible usually means by the “world” – basically, it refers to the temporary things that are not of God.*

As suggested earlier, log any specific prayer requests into your group's journal. **Be prepared to really press your group on sharing who they fight with, and where they need to grow.**