

**Series Title:**

**“Tightening The Knot”**

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**Sermon Title:**

**“Why We Hurt The Ones We Love”**

Harbour Shores Church

**Sermon Text:**

James 4:1-10

4.13.08

**Introduction:**



★ There are basically three things that James says about relational conflicts:

**I. The \_\_\_\_\_ Of Conflict (4:1-3)**

- What do the words “*quarrels*” and “*conflicts*” mean?
- The first thing that James points out about the source of conflict is the fact that . . .

**A. It starts with our \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 1-2a)**

- What is the meaning of the word “*pleasures*”?
- **Conflicts arise \_\_\_\_\_ people because there is conflict \_\_\_\_\_ of people!**

**1. The enemy isn’t \_\_\_\_\_ ; it’s \_\_\_\_\_**

- *The enemy is not overseas, and it is not on the other side of the country, but living within your \_\_\_\_\_!*

**2. The enemy poses as a friendly \_\_\_\_\_ but never delivers on its \_\_\_\_\_.**

- All sin is like that – it gives immediate \_\_\_\_\_ but long-term \_\_\_\_\_!

**3. The enemy’s \_\_\_\_\_ is to bring you \_\_\_\_\_**

- \_\_\_\_\_ is at the heart of all relational conflicts.

**B. It is seen in our \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 2b-3)**

- There are three implications:

**1. Your prayer life, or lack thereof, reveals the \_\_\_\_\_ of your \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 2b)**

- The focus of a person who doesn’t pray is always toward \_\_\_\_\_, not toward \_\_\_\_\_.

**2. In order to receive from God, we have to \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 3a)**

- The main reason why you should pray for peace is so that God would be \_\_\_\_\_!

**3. If you pray selfishly, it shows that you are trying to use God for \_\_\_\_\_ purposes rather than seeking \_\_\_\_\_ purposes (v. 3b)**

- Prayer is not so that \_\_\_\_\_ can use \_\_\_\_\_ - it's so that \_\_\_\_\_ can use \_\_\_\_\_!

## II. The \_\_\_\_\_ For Conflict (4:4-10)

➤ Here is James' time-tested course of action:

1. To resolve conflicts, you must \_\_\_\_\_ from all forms of spiritual \_\_\_\_\_  
(vv. 4-5)

- All relational conflicts are rooted in a \_\_\_\_\_ - and the problem is that the two in question are not in a right relationship with the living God!

2. To resolve conflicts, you must \_\_\_\_\_ plead for God's \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 6)

- If you are in conflict in your marriage relationship, then consider the shocking possibility that you are living for \_\_\_\_\_!

3. To resolve conflicts, you must \_\_\_\_\_ yourself to \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 7a, 8, 10)

*"If you are involved in continuing conflicts and quarrels, then you are not close to God!"*

4. To resolve conflicts, you must \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 7)

- The Greek word translated "resist" means "to stand \_\_\_\_\_ or to \_\_\_\_\_."

5. To resolve conflicts, you must \_\_\_\_\_ of all \_\_\_\_\_. (vv. 8-9)

- Psalm 51:17; Psalm 34:18

### Conclusion:

***Don't sit passively and wait for resolution in a conflict to happen spontaneously, because it won't!***

Remember, it is your responsibility to make the divine principles and truths contained in this message real by consistent application of them in your own life.