


Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

*Submit Yourselves to God*

Q1. What human traits (or characteristics) seem to cause arguments between people?

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<sup>1</sup> What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?

Q2. How would you answer James’ questions?

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<sup>2a</sup> You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight.

Q3. Are these qualities that radiate from a Believer in Jesus Christ?

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<sup>2b</sup> You do not have, because you do not ask God.

Q4. What is prayer?

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Q5. Does God really answer prayer?

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**1 Samuel 2:25**

If a man sins against another man, God may mediate for him; but if a man sins against the LORD, who will intercede for him?"...

**Matthew 6:5-8**

“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go into your room, close the door, and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. <sup>7</sup> And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”

Q6. If the “Father knows what you need before you ask him”, then why do we need to pray?

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**Romans 8:26-27**

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

**Hebrews 7:25**

Therefore He [Jesus] is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Q7. Did God the Father answer every one of Jesus' prayers that, perhaps, Jesus the human wanted?


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**Matthew 26:42**

He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done."

**Day 2**

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<sup>3</sup> When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

Q8. What are right and Godly motives?

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Q9. Is it wrong to ask God for "pleasures" of this world?

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<sup>4</sup> You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

Q10. What do people "of the world" do?

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Q11. If "God so loved the world", then why would James say that "friendship with the world is hatred toward God" or "an enemy of God"?

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Q12. If we are to follow Jesus’ teachings, “Love your neighbor as yourself” [Mark 12:31], then why would James explain that “friendship with the world is hatred toward God” or “an enemy of God”?

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 We Believers are to be in the world, not of the world.

**1 John 2:15-17**

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does – comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

<sup>5</sup> Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely?

Q13. Who or what is “the spirit he caused to live in us”?

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Q14. What in verse-5 tells us that we have a personality similar to the Holy Spirit?

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**Genesis 1:1-2, &26**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters... <sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness..."

*Day 3*

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<sup>6</sup> But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." [Proverbs 3:34]

Q15. Does God like pride?

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**Proverbs 16:18-19**


Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. <sup>19</sup> Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud.

Q16. Is pride ever good?

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**Galatians 6:2-5**

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup> If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. <sup>4</sup> Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, <sup>5</sup> for each one should carry his own load.

 Note: We shouldn't forget what James wrote in chapter 1....

**James 1:9**

The brother in humble circumstances ought to take pride in his high position. (10) But the one who is rich should take pride in his low position, because he will pass away like a wild flower. (11) For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich man will fade away even while he goes about his business.

**1 Peter 5:5-6**

... All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." <sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

<sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Q17. Do you believe that the devil (or Satan or Beelzebub or the prince of this world) exists?

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Q18. Are you fearful of Satan and his capabilities?

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Q19. How are we to withstand Satan's attacks?

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**Ephesians 6:10-18**

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

**2 Thessalonians 3:3**

But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

Day 4

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

<sup>8</sup> Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Q20. How can we “come near to God”?

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Q21. Can we “wash our hands”? Can we “purify our hearts”? How?

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<sup>9</sup> Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

Q22. What are we to “grieve, mourn, and wail” about?

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Q23. Are we Believers in Jesus to be forever sad, never again to show happiness or joyousness?

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<sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Q24. Why are we to “humble” ourselves before the LORD?

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**Ephesians 3:14-15**

For this reason I kneel before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

Q25. Does kneeling or bowing before the LORD convey an attitude?

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**Romans 14:10-12**

You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. <sup>11</sup> It is written: " 'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.' " <sup>12</sup> So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

**Philippians 2:9-11**

Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Day 5

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

<sup>11</sup> Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.

Q26. What is “slander”? And why shouldn’t we “slander one another”?

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**Matthew 22:36-40**

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" <sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: " Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

**Matthew 15:19**

For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

Q27. From verse 11, how do you explain this thought, “Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it”?

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<sup>12</sup> There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you — who are you to judge your neighbor?

Q28. Who is the “one Lawgiver and Judge”?

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Q29. What does a “judge” do?

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Q30. If I am a professed Believer and I tell you about a sin I have committed and I am not remorseful or repentant about that sin, what are you to do?

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Q31. Society tells us to be tolerant. Are we to use that worldly tolerance within the church, too?

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Q32. If your unbelieving neighbor acts in an “unneighborly” way, what are you to do?

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Day 6

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

**Boasting About Tomorrow**

<sup>13</sup> Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money."

Q33. What would you say is the attitude of the person James is referencing in verse 13?

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<sup>14</sup> Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

Q34. Why does James say that we “do not even know what will happen tomorrow”? I’m going to go to work (or work around the house or attend church), right after breakfast tomorrow.

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Q35. Look at the magnificent buildings that we have built throughout the world. How can those be considered “mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes”? Those structures are going to be around for a long, long time.

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Q36. “What is your life?”

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**Matthew 6:19-21**

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup> But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

**Matthew 6:25-34**

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life... <sup>27</sup> Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? ... <sup>31</sup> So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup> For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. <sup>34</sup> Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

**2 Corinthians 4:18**

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

<sup>15</sup> Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

Q37. Does this quote remind you of any well-known Scripture?

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**Matthew 6:9-11**

"This, then, is how you should pray: " 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, <sup>10</sup> your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread...

<sup>16</sup> As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup> Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

Q38. As you read verse-17, what one word comes to mind that explains what our attitude should be before the LORD?

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