

# LIFEGROUP

## STUDY ON JAMES 4:1-12

*These LifeGroup questions are structured to allow for deeper discussions following on from the Sunday sermon on the book of James. Please don't limit yourself to just these questions, feel free to ask more questions as the Spirit leads. But please don't feel you have to answer all of them either. May the Spirit lead you and your group to dig deeper into knowing more about God.*

### WARMING UP

1. *Conflict management animal quiz:*  
<http://advisingconference.web.unc.edu/files/2015/05/AnimalConflictManagementStyle.pdf>

Which animal are you?

- Competing Shark
- Avoiding Turtle
- Accommodating Teddy Bear
- Compromising Fox
- Collaborating Owl

### READ JAMES 4:1-12

2. Why do you think James uses such violent language of war to describe the way Christians treat one another? Is this how you have treated other brothers and sisters in the past?
3. What does James say about people's prayers not always being answered?
4. How often are we driven by pleasure-seeking in life? Why?
5. What does v5 mean in terms of "jealousy"?
6. What are the seven things James put forward in this section, encouraging us to come back to God? (v4-10)

### MOVING FORWARD IN PRAYER

Of the things highlighted in this passage, which things do you need God to work on the most in your life?

Spend some sharing why such things are a challenge currently and pray into these things.

### LEADERS NOTES:

2. Commentaries explain that the violent language was used to demonstrate the severity of how much it pains God, it is a metaphor to demonstrate the devastating effect of unrestrained hostility towards one another.

5. God created human beings with a "spirit" and the language used explains that he deeply desires and yearns for us to worship Him. Some interpreters have suggested that this is similar to human jealousy. But the idea of divine jealousy fits this context since the surrounding verses are in reference with our relationship with God. A "jealous God" is in reference to Ex 20:5; 34:14; Deut 4:24, a God who appropriately yearns for loyal devotion from us, yearns for his honour—while rightfully envious when we turn to earthly things. We belong to Christ, and He is deserving of our utmost devotion.