



# SEARCHING OUR HEARTS

JAMES 4:1-10

## I. Prayer exposes the root of our conflict with others as a conflict inside us.

*What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. vv. 1-3*

- A. The root of our conflict often stems from \_\_\_\_\_ inside us we struggle to control. (v. 1)
- B. When we cannot control our desires, we try to control \_\_\_\_\_ to get what we want. (v. 2a)
- C. When we cannot control others, we ask \_\_\_\_\_ to intervene. (vv. 2b-3)

*Reasons why God doesn't answer every prayer with a "Yes!"*

1. The prayer is selfish or ultimately won't turn out well for you (Jas 4:3)
2. You're asking for something that is contradictory to His will (1 Jn 5:14-15)
3. You haven't been obedient in another area of your life (Ps 66:18)
4. The timing isn't right (Lk 18:1)

## II. Prayer calms the conflict within us to quiet the conflict between us.

*But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. vv. 6-8*

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ God's grace so you can give it to others. (v. 6)
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ pride so you can humbly approach that other person. (v. 7)
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ with God first so you're prepared to reconcile with others. (v. 8)

### Prayer Journal

**FIRST THINGS FIRST:**  
If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ROMANS 12:18

<b>FOR YOURSELF:</b>	<b>FOR SOMEONE ELSE:</b>
Pray for His will, not your way.	Pray God would guide them in His way.
Pray for His perspective, not your own.	Pray God would give them His perspective.
Pray for His peace to rest in the results.	Pray God would soften their heart to reconcile.

**FIRST**  
-THINGS-  
**FIRST** *PRAYING FOR  
A CHANGE*  
**HOME GROUP LESSON**

1. Share with your group ways in which this series has impacted your walk with Christ.

2. What are some of the unmet appetites you personally deal with that influence the conflict in your relationships? What is at their root?

3. How does the idea of man's free will (e.g., the prodigal son) influence relational conflict? What does this tell you about the nature of man (see Jer 17:9) and the nature of God? How does this knowledge affect praying for relationships?

4. Read aloud James 4:1-10. How have you seen yourself slipping into being friends with the world as you walked through this series? How has this study helped you to confront this tendency?

5. How does the quote below speak about our attitude when we pray and address conflict?

*"Before we can pray, 'Lord, Thy Kingdom come,' we must be willing to pray, 'My Kingdom go.'"*  
ALAN REDPATH

6. Use the **Prayer Journal** at the bottom of the sermon notes to frame your prayers over the next week as you face conflict in relationships. Use the boxed series recap above as a bookmark in your Bible to remind you of the concepts you've learned.

**On prayer**

---

**WEEK 1: SUBMITTING MY WILL TO THY WILL**  
*Matthew 6:5-15*  
Prayer is a conversation with a personal God  
Our prayers should follow Jesus' model  
We acknowledge who He is and request what only He can do  
Pray to submit our will to His will as His child

---

**WEEK 2: SUPPORTING OUR LEADERS IN PRAYER**  
*1 Timothy 2:1-7*  
All levels of leadership need our prayers  
Our leaders influence the spread of the gospel  
Pray before complaining about leadership

---

**WEEK 3: STANDING UP ON OUR KNEES**  
*Daniel 6*  
Mature Christians address cultural issues first with prayer  
What you do in your house affects the White House  
Pray for God's courage, mercy and absolute truth

---

**WEEK 4: SEARCHING OUR HEARTS**  
*James 4:1-10*  
Conflict within us creates conflict between us  
Only God can calm the conflict inside us and quiet the conflict between us  
Pray for reconciliation with God and with others

*"Tell God all that is in your heart, as one unloads one's heart, its pleasures and its pains, to a dear friend. Tell Him your troubles, that he may comfort you; tell Him your joys, that he may sober them; tell Him your longings, that He may purify them; tell him your dislikes, that he may help you to conquer them; talk to Him of your temptations, that He may shield you from them; show Him the wounds of your heart, that he may heal them; lay bare your indifference to good, your depraved tastes for evil, your instability. Tell Him how self-love makes you unjust to others, how vanity tempts you to be insincere, how pride disguises you to yourself as to others. If you thus pour out all your weaknesses, needs, troubles, there will be no lack of what to say. You will never exhaust the subject."*

FRANÇOIS FÉNELON, French Archbishop during the Middle Ages

**COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL**

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of The Source at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events). They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

**TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP AND TEXT**

**"CCBCCONNECT" TO 555-888.** If you've been worshipping at Christ Chapel for a while and are ready to make this your church home, we want to help! Text "CCBCCONnect" to 555-888 and we'll send you some easy next steps for connecting to the Christ Chapel community.

**HOME GROUP LEADER RALLY IS TODAY.**

Be a part of what God is doing through home groups by leading one! Worried you don't have all the answers or the perfect home to host? Don't be. Come to the leader rally at 12:30 p.m. in the Oak Room and let us equip you with everything you need to lead.

**THE "I'M NOT ANGRY, I'M JUST ..." CLASS**

**BEGINS THIS THURSDAY, JAN. 31.** Do you ever catch yourself saying "I'm not angry, I'm just ..."? The presence of anger in our lives can be deceptive, but all-too real. And when it's not dealt with, it's destructive too. That's why Ryan McCarthy is teaching a two-week class on what the Bible prescribes for anger beginning this Thursday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall East. Sign up for the class ahead of time at [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events).

**CONNECTING POINT BEGINS NEXT**

**SUNDAY, FEB. 3.** If you've been worshipping at Christ Chapel for a while but haven't connected any further, we want you to know there's so much more to experience! Connecting Point is a great place to meet people who are putting down roots at CCBC and the experience will introduce you to all the ways we're here to help you grow in your faith. Sign up for the class, which begins next Sunday at 9:15 a.m., at the Connect Kiosk in the Great Room or at [www.ccbcfamily.org/connectingpoint](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/connectingpoint).

**JOIN A HOME GROUP TODAY!**

One of the best ways to connect and grow at Christ Chapel is in a home group. Home groups gather across the city almost every day of the week to hang out and study the Bible together. We're starting a new church-wide series in the Gospel of Mark next Sunday which means now is the perfect time to jump in. Visit the Connect Kiosk in the Great Room or email Hailee at [HaileeS@christchapelbc.org](mailto:HaileeS@christchapelbc.org) to join a group.

**THE CHRIST CHAPEL APP JUST GOT A**

**HUGE UPDATE.** More dynamic than ever before, the app's new homepage puts the latest sermons, events and live streams right at your fingertips. It's a fantastic (and super easy) way to stay in the know and up to date. Experience it for yourself by updating your Christ Chapel Bible Church App in the App Store or on Google Play.

**MAKE IT FACEBOOK OFFICIAL.**

From encouraging sermon clips and Coffee Talks to event info and looks behind the scenes, we're always posting something new on Facebook. Search "Christ Chapel Bible Church" to like and follow the page today!