



THE EVIDENCE OF A
GENUINE FAITH

PURSUING WHAT
MATTERS TO GOD

The Humility of
your Life
(James 4:1-17)
Sermon Notes November 1

Sunday, November 1 / 20 --- James 4:1 – 17

Or what do you think the Scripture means when it says that the Holy Spirit whom God has placed within us, watches over us with tender jealousy? But He gives us more and more strength to stand against all such evil longings. As the Scripture says, God gives strength to the humble, but sets Himself against the proud and haughty. James 4:5 – 6 (TLB)

Humility, the place of entire dependence on God, is the first duty and the highest virtue of the creature, and the root of every virtue. And so pride, or the loss of this humility, is the root of every sin and evil. - Andrew Murray

If you are humble nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are. - Mother Teresa

Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful. - Ann Landers

Foreword: On Hedonism

1. The Life of a Hedonist (4:1 – 4)

- Fights and quarrels...
- Passions and desires...
- Friendship with the world...

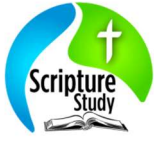
2. The Life of the Holy Spirit (4:5)

- *the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely (NIV)*
- *the Spirit who lives in us yearns jealously (HCSB)*
- *the Holy Spirit whom God has placed within us, watches over us with tender jealousy (TLB)*

3. The Life of the Humble (4:6 – 17)

- Submitting to God... resisting the devil (vs. 7 – 10)
- Not judging your neighbour... (vs. 11 – 12)
- Living in the Lord's will each day... (vs. 13 – 17)

Afterword: A word on Christian Hedonism



Study and Discussion Questions
James 4:1-17

Open It

1. What do families and friends commonly fight about?
2. If you knew you had just three months to live, what are some things you would want to do?

Explore It

3. What is the root cause of fights and quarrels between people? (4:1-3)
4. When does God give us grace? (4:6)
5. How did James describe the way we should come to God? (4:7-10)
6. What warning did James give to those who make plans for the future? (4:13-14)
7. What is the best way to plan ahead? (4:15)
8. What should we say when we are making plans? (4:15)

Get It

9. What do most people think God wants from them?
10. What is the difference between pride and a sense of accomplishment?
11. How can we reduce or remove the pride from our lives?
12. What responsibility does God want us to take in planning our lives?
13. How can we make plans for business or living which are pleasing to God?

Apply It

14. What can you do this week to help you bring more humility into your life?
15. What can you do this week to place your plans in God's hands?