



Discussion Guide

March 1, 2015



Discussion Questions	Leader Notes
<p>The captain of a ship looked into the dark night and saw faint lights in the distance. Immediately, he told his signalman to send a message, "Alter your course 10 degrees south." Promptly a return message was received, "Alter your course 10 degrees north." The captain was angered; his command had been ignored. So he sent a second message, "Alter your course 10 degrees south - I am the captain!" Soon another message was received, "Alter your course 10 degrees south - I am seaman third class Jones." Immediately, the captain sent a third message, knowing the fear it would evoke, "Alter your course 10 degrees south - I am a battleship!" Then the reply came, "Alter your course 10 degrees north - I am a lighthouse." Submission to God only occurs when we humble ourselves enough to know who we are in "light" of who He is.</p>	<p><i>Helpful Hint:</i> Get people involved in the discussion by asking non-threatening questions that will engage the whole group.</p>
<p>Discussion Kick Off</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the most ridiculous argument you've ever been involved in? What position did you take? Why were you so adamant about your position? 2. How would you explain humility to a five year-old? Why is humility a necessary part of forgiveness? 	<p>A cartoon in the <i>New Yorker</i> magazine showed an exasperated father saying to his prodigal son, "This is the fourth time we've killed the fatted calf." God does that over and over in our lifetime. -Bruce Larson, <i>Setting Men Free</i></p>
<p>Evaluate It</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is friendship with the world and what are some of the symptoms? 2. What is James communicating when he says there is a war going on inside of us? 3. Why is mourning a necessary part of submitting humbly to God? What are we mourning? What does it mean to "harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your heart?" Give an example. 4. Why has the word "submit" become such a stumbling block? Why do we struggle with this word so much? 5. What part does Satan play in the quarrels and fights that take place among believers? 	<p>Read James 4: 1-12. Make it more interesting by reading from the Message version (free on the You Version Bible App).</p>
<p>Make It Personal</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Stuart said, "We all, in small areas, multiple areas, public areas and private areas of our life deserve to be called 'adulterous' in our relationship with Him."</i> Why do we deserve to be called "adulterous" in our relationship with Him? 2. In verses 7-10 James gives several suggestions for humbling ourselves before God. How does each contribute to a humble spirit? 	<p>GROUP LEADERS... James 4 is one of the most in your face challenging chapters in the bible. While working through verses 6-10 (if time allows) give your folks some time for quiet confession.</p>
<p>Never Been Away</p> <p>Once President Lincoln was asked how he was going to treat the rebellious Southerners when they had finally been defeated and returned to the Union of the United States. The questioner expected that Lincoln would take a dire vengeance, but he answered, "I will treat them as if they had never been away." That is merely a taste of the forgiveness we receive from our Heavenly Father when we lay down our "arms" and surrender.</p>	<p>At the end of the discussion take a moment to take prayer requests from the group (if you haven't done so) and pray for your group before you end your time together.</p>

Starting a Table or Life Group? Take a look at the helpful information below:

Who establishes and makes up a table or life group?

1. Husband & Wife
2. Family
3. 2-5 Guys
4. 2-5 Ladies
5. 2-5 Couples

Where do they meet?

1. Kitchen table
2. Coffee table
3. Cafe table
4. Restaurant table
5. Picnic table
6. Work table
7. Round table

- Meeting (how often, how long): Weekly or bi-weekly (day and time is decided by the group). No more than 2 hours.
- Who should lead a table or life group? Leadership can be shared or the group may choose a leader.
- How long should the group stay together? The group should commit to stay together 6-8 weeks. Groups can renew their commitment to meet together at the end of that time, but initially groups should stay together 6-8 weeks.
- What happens if the group is too big to meet around a table? No table or life group should have more than 15 individuals. If a group grows to have more than 15 participants, there are two options:
 - Multiply into separate tables (groups of less than 15) or
 - Seek to establish a life group (10-20 participants)
- If you have any questions or would like to establish a life group, please contact Jason Fox at 270-765-4994 or jason@fcctown.com.

If you would like to talk with a minister,
call 270-765-4994 to set up an appointment or contact:

Stuart Jones stuart@fcctown.com Senior Minister

Chris Kiger chris@fcctown.com Student Minister

Jason Fox jason@fcctown.com Small Group Minister

Doug Mitchell doug@fcctown.com Connections Minister

Tim Hurd tim@fcctown.com Children's Minister

Shannon Smith Shannon@fcctown.com Assistant Children's
Director