James Chapter 4  
Sunday Night Follow-up Questions

James’ letter is written to Christians. The beginning of chapter 4 (which we looked at this morning in both HS and MS classes) shows what happens to Christians and churches when they chose to live for selfish desires and for the things of this world rather than God. James clearly illustrates how actions and attitudes can reveal our true motives. As you study this chapter, consider your motives and what your action and attitude reveal about you. Are they pure and Christlike or is there a more sobering reality of selfishness? Ask God to transform you where you need His help and thank Him where He already has.

Read James 4:1-10

Verse 1 - James begins this chapter with a question. How would you answer it? He points us to our desires. Since we all have different desires, how should we handle them? What do you think he mean when says "they battle within you"? What's the battle really between? Who usually wins that battle?

Verse 2 - What does James say is the root cause of fights and quarrels between people?

What are the two behaviors James criticizes in Verses 2-3? Why are they are so significant?

You "kill" may be hyperbole, an exaggeration for hate or he could be referring to slanderous words that attack another person's character and "slowly kill them with their words". Does part 2 of verse 2 mean we can ask God for anything?

Verse 3 - Have you ever asked God for something and not received it? Do you think the motives behind some of your requests may have been the reason God did not grant your request?

Verse 4 - God created us for His purposes. Do you think people often treat Him as if He was created for ours? Read the first three of the 10 Commandments in Exodus 20. How does God expect us to respond to Him?

Verse 7 - How should we handle the devil and what will be the results? Compare this with superstitious ways that people think they can be protected from the devil?

Give examples that illustrate how the devil should be treated?

What help do we have in resisting the devil? (Read Ephesians 6:10-12)

Verse 8 - How should we act toward God, and what will be the result?

What must we do to draw near to God? What are the barriers to doing this?

What does it feel like when God draws near to you, in response to your moving towards him?

Verses 4:8b-10 - For what should Christians weep and mourn? Compare what that means for individuals and communities?

Define “humble”, and the results it produces? Share a recent experience when you have been humble before God or   
 another person.

**Hope you can join us Wednesday night at Midweek!**