

A photograph of a person wearing a white protective suit, standing in a room. The background features a large, abstract painting on a wall, characterized by dark, expressive brushstrokes in shades of blue and black. The floor is covered with crumpled, light-colored paper. The overall scene suggests a laboratory or a controlled environment where the person is engaged in a task, possibly related to the 'MOVEMENT' theme.

M O V E M E N T

READING PLAN

WEEK FOUR

# J A M E S

FOUR

<sup>1</sup> What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? <sup>2</sup> You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. <sup>3</sup> When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

<sup>4</sup> You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup> Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? <sup>6</sup> But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud  
but shows favor to the humble."

<sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup> Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

<sup>11</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. <sup>12</sup> There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?

<sup>13</sup> Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." <sup>14</sup> Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup> Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." <sup>16</sup> As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup> If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them.



W E E K F O U R

# W E E K F O U R

Read all of chapter 4 every day focusing on the highlighted scripture for each day of the week.

## MONDAY

**JAMES 4:1-3**

1. What types of things tend to cause conflict in your relationships?
2. How do you discern if you are asking God for things with the right motives or not?

## TUESDAY

**JAMES 4:4-7**

1. What does James mean when he says "don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God" (4:4)?
2. What practices can you employ to help resist the devil?

## WEDNESDAY

**JAMES 4:8-10**

1. James promises that God will draw near to those that draw near to Him (4:8). How have you experienced that in your relationship with God? How might the 'rapid-fire' commands James gives in these verses aid in drawing near to the Lord?

# THURSDAY

JAMES 4:11-12

1. We're all faced with the temptation to judge one another. In what circumstances or situations are you most tempted to judge others?
2. How have you seen anger/gossip erode relationships? Either personally or from a distance?
3. What conclusion is James trying to lead you to about the relationship between judging others, the law and the One lawgiver?

# FRIDAY

JAMES 4:13-17

1. James uses strong language when talking about how we make our plans. Are there any areas of your life that you're holding onto your plans too tightly? What can you do to loosen your grip?
2. Why is it considered a sin that you know it is right to do good, but don't act on it?

C H A L L E N G E

"SUBMIT YOURSELVES, THEN,  
TO GOD. RESIST THE DEVIL,  
AND HE WILL FLEE FROM YOU."

Memorize James 4:7 and share with one other person.

