

# Pressure Points Bible Study V: The Pressure of Conflict – James 4:1-10

11-06-2018

## Things to Ponder

1) Is conflict always bad?

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2) What's the difference between humbling oneself and debasing oneself?

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## Going Deeper

1) There is a saying that you can get to know a person by the company that they keep. When believers maintain strong and deep connections with people who are opposed to their Christian belief system, what might that reveal to God about their commitment to that belief system?

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2) According to verses 1-2, fights and war flow from things God's people crave and desire but don't possess. What are some Biblical examples of people who were driven to fight and/or attempt to destroy others due to something they desired but did not or could not acquire?

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- 3) The Borg who were introduced in Star Trek the Next Generation often say “resistance is futile” when they are trying to take over a person, community or culture. Likewise, some people believe that all conflict is inevitable. Does anything in today’s lesson suggest that resisting the pressure to engage in destructive conflict is not only possible but something that God expects us to do?

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- 4) James gives two reasons why people who give in to the pressure of conflict don’t have what they desire. What are the two reasons given? (Hint: See verses 2-3)

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- 5) What might be some wrong motives for asking God to do something?

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- 6) We are told to submit to God before we are told to resist the devil. Do you think it’s possible to successfully resist the devil without first submitting to God? If not , why not?

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