



*What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?* - James 4:1 (NIV)

Inner STRUGGLES always become outward STRIFE

*You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight.* - James 4:2 (NIV)

Three reasons why we have the inward struggle:

I'm not ASSURED of God's goodness

*You do not have because you do not ask God.*

I'm not ALIGNED to God's purpose

*When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.* - James 4:2-3 (NIV)

I'm not AMAZED by God's friendship

*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.* - James 4:4 (NIV)

Three tactics for winning the inward battle:

REESTABLISH your relationship with God

*Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you.* - James 4:7-8 (NIV)

REORIENT your love for God

*Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.* - James 4:8 (NIV)

RECAPTURE your sorrow for sin

*Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.* - James 4:9 (NIV)

When I win the inward, God handles the OUTWARD

*Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.* - James 4:10 (NIV)