#### Tuesday Bible Study: The Letter of James Ch. 4

Dingmans Ferry UMC (Pastor Sung)

# 1. Opening Prayer

#### 2. Holiness

a. words

*qodesh* in Hebrew: apartness, separateness, sacred *hagios* in Greek: pure from every fault or carnality

b. God

God's attribute: Exodus 19:5-6, Psalm 99:5

God's presence: Exodus 3:5, 1 Kings 8:6-11, 1 Corinthians 3:16-17

God's act of purification and righteousness: Hosea 11:9, Isaiah 57:15, Ezekiel 20:9

c. People

Relationship with God: Leviticus 11:44-45

Missional calling from God: Leviticus 19:2, 20:7-8, 26, 1 Peter 1:15-16

3. Friend of God (James 2:23 and 4:4)

Abraham: Isa 41:8, 2 Chr. 20:7, James 2:23

Moses: Exo. 33:11

Why do you think Abraham and Moses are called as friends of God in the bible, especially Abraham in the letter of James?

4. Friend of Jesus

John the Baptist: John 3:29

Lazarus: John 11:11

People: John 15:13-15

What is the definition of friend in the bible?

#### 5. Structure of James 4

#### Friend of God vs. Friend of the World (vv. 1-7)

Wrong Motives cause to fight and quarrel (vv.1-3)

A friend of the world becomes an enemy of God (v. 4)

Scripture 1: the Spirit (v. 5)

Scripture 2: the grace (v. 6)

Submit to God and resist against the devil (v. 7)

#### **Holiness (vv.8-10)**

Come to God, wash hands, and purify (v. 8)

Practices: grieve, mourn, wail, and be humble (vv. 9-10)

### Do not judge and do not be judges. (vv. 11-12)

Do not judge (v. 11)

There is only one lawgiver and judge (v. 12)

## **Humility vs. Arrogance (vv. 13-17)**

Human arrogance about the future (v. 13)

We don't know the future (v. 14)

We should follow the will of God (v. 15)

Such boasting is evil (v. 16)

Do good (v. 17)

#### 6. Read James 4

## 7. Questions

- a. What is the reason that the Holy Spirit intensely envies in us? (v. 5)
- b. Talk about examples of double-mindedness (v. 8)
- c. How shall we understand the act of washing hands? (v. 8)
- d. Why do you think James told the addressees to grieve, mourn, and wail? (v. 9)
- e. Suppose that this letter was written to a certain church. What can we imagine about the church's situation?

# 8. Closing Prayer