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## James 4:1-12

### “The Pursuit of Pleasure”

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**The main point of James 4:1-12 is that we'll always be frustrated by self-seeking pleasure.**

**Or stated another way,  
“Pursuing worldly pleasure destroys our opportunity to truly please God.”**

3

#### **Instead of fighting to obtain life's pleasures, why not pray to God? (4:1-3)**

- Disharmony is a reality in every arena of life (4:1a).
- Disharmony stems from the basic selfish demand for pleasure (4:1b).
- Disharmony is antithetical to prayerful dependence on God (4:2).
- Disharmony is one result of improper motivation in prayer (4:3).

4

**Instead of trying to be a friend of the world,  
why not become a friend of God? (4:4-6)**

- It's impossible to claim friendship with the world and with God at the same time (4:4).
- God lovingly and jealously longs for your devoted friendship (4:5).
- God graciously uplifts those who are humble (4:6).

5

**Instead of pursuing Satan's path,  
why not submit humbly to God? (4:7-10)**

- A satisfying life is one that submits to God (4:7).
- A satisfying life is one that draws near to God (4:8-9).
- A satisfying life is one that humbles itself before God (4:10).

6

**Instead of harboring a judgmental attitude,  
why not apply the law of love? (4:11-12)**

- When we judge others, we elevate ourselves above God's law (4:11).
- When we judge others, we elevate ourselves above God's Lordship (4:12).

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we'll always be frustrated by self-seeking pleasure.**

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"Pursuing worldly pleasure destroys our opportunity  
to truly please God."**

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