**The book of James pt 7:  *He gives grace to the humble***

Expect trials and fires – they produce a greater faith… DO what the word says, don’t merely be a believer. Treat everyone in the church the same – no matter how they got to the table… Watch how you use your greatest weapon, the tongue... Walk in heavenly wisdom, whose chief attribute is HUMILITY

**Eph3:11** the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church …

*WHEN IT COMES TO THE LONG-TERM WITNESS OF A CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE COMMUNITY OF LOVE WHICH WE SHARE WITH ONE ANOTHER.*

# James 4

# 1-5 The source of all conflict: *HINT*: it has NOTHING to do with the other person/ people

* Ask and you shall receive… when we ask according to His will…

**Psalms 37:3-5*... Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart…***

* When our delight is not the Lord, our desires become SELF-serving: **I want. I need. I must have**
* “Well, if God won’t give it to me, I’ll find a way to get it for myself. Whoever gets in my way is toast.”

4 …friendship with the world is hostility toward God …***He jealously desires the Spirit…***

* **We are friends with whatever we have fellowship with the most. HONEST LOOK – what is a that?!?**
* **THIS IS WHY *it is hard for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven…***
* **ALL OF GOD’S PURPOSES IN OUR LIVES** have to do with conforming us to His image that we might be restored into unbroken communion with Him and with one another.

Since He gave us His Spirit, He is under the notion that WE ARE HIS!...And he will fight for His marriage

6-10 GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE….Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

* It is God’s will to exalt us…but NOT the way men exalt themselves
* PROUD: [huperephanos] – “to over- shine” : showing one’s self above others, overtopping, conspicuous above others, pre-eminent, with an overweening estimate of one’s means or merits, despising others or even treating them with contempt, haughty

Romans 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

SO WHAT IF YOUR MEASURE IS BIGGER THAN SOMEONE ELSE’S?

* “The Spirit which is opposing you might just be named, YAHWEH!!!
* HUMBLE: not rising far from the ground; metaphorically lowly, of low degree, brought low with grief, depressed, lowly in spirit, humble

Matthew 11:28-29 "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. (29) "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.

# Phil 2:1-13

# The greatest is the servant of all…we pick up our own cross now!

**FROM THE MESSAGE:**

**Philippians 2:1-11** If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care-- then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand. Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death--and the worst kind of death at that: a crucifixion. Because of that obedience, God lifted him high and honored him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth--even those long ago dead and buried--will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honor of God the Father.