

# MINING THE MESSAGE

**TITLE:** Conflict: A Growth Opportunity

**SCRIPTURE:** James 4:1-10

**SPEAKER:** Chad McKinley

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## **BIG IDEA:**

Conflict is a catalyst that God uses for your progression in spiritual growth.

## **OUTLINE:**

1. Realize the Source of Conflict (1)
2. Recognize the Progression of Conflict (2-3)
3. Reorient Your Worship (4-6)
4. Repent of Your Failings (7-10)

## **WHAT DID YOU LEARN?**

- 1 What are common theories that people have for why we have conflicts? What are easy “traps” for people’s thinking in conflicts? How does God’s explanation of conflict give a new perspective?
- 2 James uses a lot of surprising terms to describe conflict (murder, war, adultery, enemy of God). Why would James use this type of language? What does this show about the significance of our conflicts?

## **HOW WILL YOU APPLY IT?**

- 1 Think about your typical sinful patterns of conflict. How do these patterns hurt your relationship with God and others? What does repentance look like for your life?
- 2 What is comforting about knowing that God gives grace abundantly to the ones who are humble and follow His ways? How does that motivate you to live differently?

## **LIVE IT OUT**

List the conflicts that you have this week. Reflect on how you responded in each conflict. Identify the motives or desires that drove your response. Celebrate the times you handled conflict in a godly manner. Repent to God when you fall short of His standard.

## **READ AHEAD**

Read James 3:17-18. What impacts you as you reflect on the descriptions of wisdom that comes from above?

