



Imperfect Together Part 1 - Happy Together

BREAKING THE ICE:

Who is a person you get along with more than anyone else? Why do you get along so well?

GO TO THE SOURCE : READ James 4:1-2, Phil 3:12-14

DIG A LITTLE DEEPER:

1. Verse 1 of James 4 raises the question about what the relationship is between desires and fights between people.
 - a. In general what things do you desire? Be specific
 - b. What things does your spouse or roommate, fiancé, co-worker, boyfriend, girlfriend desire?
 - c. Do your desires ever conflict with that other person's desires?
 - d. If your desires conflict with their desires whose desires are wrong?
LEADERS NOTE: More often than not neither desire will be wrong as long as neither violate God's decrees.

2. Verse 2 teaches us that those unmet desires result in "killing", fighting and quarreling.
 - a. Have you ever experienced a time like this in one of your relationships, where your desires were not met and conflict resulted? Can anyone share their story?
 - b. How did you resolve that conflict?
 - c. What can you do differently in the future to prevent your desires from causing conflict?

3. Read Philippians 2:3-4
 - a. What instruction is given concerning conflict resolution?
 - b. Have you applied any of these to your relationships? Explain
 - c. Why do we struggle to live according to these precepts?

LEADERS NOTE: Take the opportunity to discuss how our flesh gets in the way and yielding to the Holy Spirit is the only way to do things God's way

4. For many of us desires have been un met for a long time and conflict has abounded and unfortunately compounded to make matters much worse.
 - a. What does Phil 3:13b tell us to do?
 - b. Is that easy or hard? If it's hard what makes it hard?
 - c. What does it take to "forget" what is behind you?

5. Phil 3:14 tells us about winning a prize.

- a. What prize did Paul want to win?

LEADERS NOTE: Phil 3:10-11 clues us in.

- b. Part of knowing Jesus is sharing in His suffering. How did Jesus respond to those who brought suffering upon Him? LEADERS NOTE: Luke 23:34

MAKE IT COUNT:

If you have had enduring conflict what step can you take this week to live at peace with your spouse, roommate, etc?