

our own desire for pleasure will lead to “wars and fights” inside us and with those around us (James 4:1).

Before our anger peaks, we can call for a “time out” and take a walk with the One who understands us better than we understand ourselves—who cares for us more than we can ever know. We can tell Him about our anger and mull things over with Him.

We can ask God to meet our needs His way, for as James said, He gives “more grace” (v.6)—a gift far greater than anything we can manage on our own.

*When anger lingers in our hearts,  
It poisons all we think and do;  
But faith seeks ways to show God's love  
And keeps our spirit strong and true. —D. De Haan*

**For every minute you are angry, you lose 60 seconds of happiness.**



# Central Mountains Baptist Church

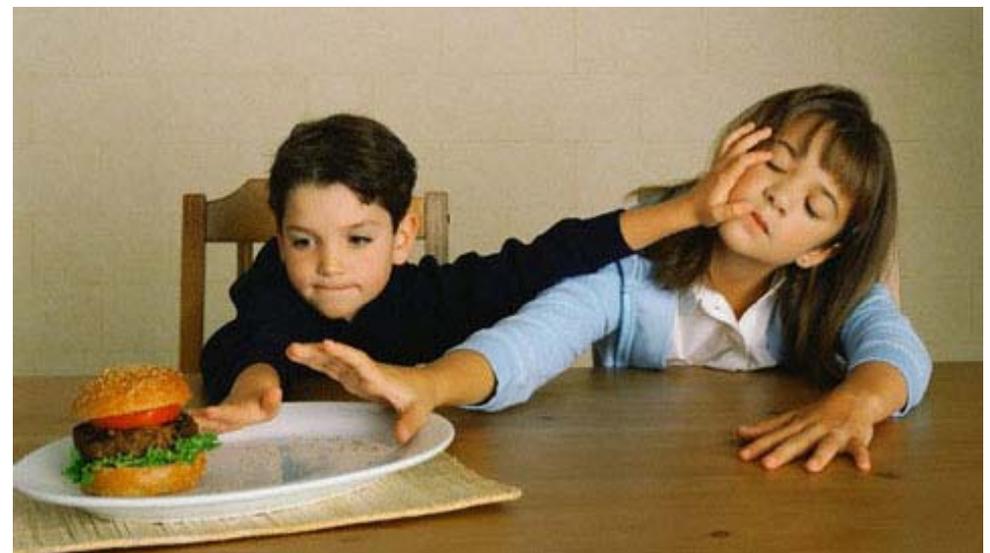
## MAY 27, 2018

### Selfishness and Fights

In James 4, the writer swung his axe at the root of one of our deepest problems: a smothering absorption with our own desires—getting our own way and having our own needs met. When that passion is frustrated, it can quickly become blind rage that demeans others and debases us. Though we may get what we want, we’re left feeling unsatisfied.

It’s better to ask God to meet our needs with His hands, in His time, in His way; to yield our will to His control, and pray as Jesus did, “Not My will, but Yours, be done” (Luke 22:42).

It does no good to brood over injustices, to try to set things right on our own, or to let our lustful desires determine our decisions. Submitting to



# Insights for Living

## Standfast in Harmony 2

### #1. Standfast in harmony, v2-3

- #2. Standfast in joy, v4
- #3. Standfast in gentleness, v5
- #4. Standfast in peace, v6-7
- #5. Standfast in thought, v8
- #6. Standfast in action, v9

We can standfast in harmonious relationships by:

### 1. Resolving interpersonal conflict, verse 2

[2. Making peace between warring parties, verse 3] [to be considered later]

Paul's case study in verse 2 (on resolving interpersonal conflict) can be considered in three steps:

### #1. Understand how we get into conflict, verses 2

Differences ———> demands ———> division [last week]

### #2. Find the right Attitude, verses 2, 2:5, 8

◆ Humility, associated with love patience and peace [last week]

◆ Seek to \_\_\_\_\_, verses 2-3

**(Ephesians 4:31)** "Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice."

**(Ephesians 4:32)** "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you."

**(1 Corinthians 10:31)** "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."



Dr Charles Hodges

### #3. \_\_\_\_\_ out the right \_\_\_\_\_, verse 2

**(James 4:1-2)** "Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? {2} You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. ..."

Now we need to consider 5 questions that will lead us to the right \_\_\_\_\_,

◆ Can I \_\_\_\_\_ this hurt, this offence? Verse 3

**(Proverbs 19:11)** "The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger, And his glory is to overlook a transgression."

**(1 Peter 4:8)** "And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins.""

You hurt me then



◆ What is my \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_?



**(Matthew 7:3-5)** ""And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? {4} "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? {5} "Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

**(Ephesians 5:5)** "For this you know, that no .. covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God."

**(1 Thessalonians 1:9)** "For they themselves declare .. how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,"

We are 100% responsible for our "2%" of the problem



Idols enslave the heart