

FRENEMIES

Part 3

Key Scriptures: James 4:4-7; 1 John 2:15-17; Proverbs 4:23; Matthew 16:24; Luke 8:19-21

1. Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Growing up, did you ever have a celebrity crush? Who was it?
- Growing up, did you have a personal bully or nemesis? Who was it?

2. Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- What does James mean by “the world”?
- How does “friendship with the world” make you an “Enemy of God”?
- What does it mean to have an Eternal perspective?
- What does John mean by the lust of the flesh?
- What does John mean by the lust of the eyes?
- What does John mean by the pride of life?

3. Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- What did James mean when he called people out for being “adulterous”? How can you commit adultery in your relationship with God?
- If a friendship with the world creates enmity with God, what does a friendship with God look like?
- If a spouse finds out that their partner is committing adultery, what kind of emotions does that stir up? How is it that God gives us grace when we make the world a priority over Him?
- If the world is always competing with the most important relationship in your life, what area of your life is the hardest to surrender to God?
- How is the world’s philosophy “Work hard, play hard” deceptive?

4. Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Concerning our friendship with the world or with God, pray for:
 - Wisdom to make the best choices that prioritize God and being His Ambassador here on earth.
 - God’s love to guard your heart from anything the world might use to distract you.
 - Pray for the grace to be humble.
 - Pray for endurance to resist the devil.

5. Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Jesus stated in Luke 8:21, “My mother and brothers are those who hear God’s word and put it into practice.” What practice can you focus on that will resist the devil?
- Spend time in God’s Word 15 minutes a day this week, and memorize James 4:7, “Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”