



## HOME-FIELD ADVANTAGE

Bill Bush | 10.17.2021

**BIG IDEA | *CIVILITY* starts with *HUMILITY*.**

### **James 4:1-3 (NLT)**

<sup>1</sup>What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. <sup>3</sup>And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

**THE CAUSE OF CONFLICT: *CONFLICTING DESIRES*.**

- The desire to *HAVE* (Possession)
- The desire to *FEEL* (Pleasure)
- The desire to *BE* (Pride & Power)

**Why aren't our desires fulfilled?**

**We do not ask *IN PRAYER* or we ask with the *WRONG MOTIVES!***

**We pray *WRONG* because we don't pray *LONG*.**

**THE CURE FOR CONFLICT: *HUMILITY***

### **James 4:4-10 (NLT)**

<sup>4</sup>You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup>Do you think the Scriptures have no meaning? They say that God is passionate

that the spirit he has placed within us should be faithful to him. <sup>6</sup> And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say,

“God opposes the proud  
but gives grace to the humble.”

<sup>7</sup> So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. <sup>9</sup> Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. <sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

#### **STEPS TO DEFUSING CONFLICT:**

- ***GIVE*** in to God.
- ***GET*** wise to Satan.
- ***GROW*** closer to God.
- ***GIVE*** and ***ASK*** for forgiveness.