

James 4:1-10 –Small Group Questions

1. Canadian philosopher, James K. A. Smith, describes humans as existential sharks. Sharks are always moving through the water to breathe. As existential sharks, we are always "on the move" in life in search of meaning and purpose. What are some of the things that "move" us in our lives in Toronto?

Read verses 1-2: James brings up the themes of the Genesis story of Cain, who murdered his younger brother, Abel, out of jealousy. What pulls us from within ourselves to fight, to quarrel, and to wage war?

Read verses 2-4: Carnality insists that the natural world is all that there is. What pulls us from outside ourselves to be prayerless and to be ulterior in our prayers?

Read verses 5-6: God's passion over us is stronger than our dislocated passions for self and the world. He gives us more grace. How does God's grace and passion over us transform the way we live out our lives in Toronto?

Read verses 7-10: God's grace works out in our lives through this series of commands. How does each of these ten commands work out in our personal and communal lives as Christians in Toronto?