

CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER LESSONS

CONTENTEDNESS:

“PEACE AND CONTENTMENT 101”

Questions for discussion

1. What is the cause for most of your fights with your brother, sister or friends?
2. Why do you think this is?
3. Do you know what it means to covet?
4. *Read James 4:1-3.* Why does James say these people were fighting and quarrelling?
5. Why did God choose not to answer their prayers?
6. *Read James 3:16-18.* Who tempts us to be selfish?
7. What does it mean to be peace-loving?
8. What would someone who loves peace do if another wanted something they had?
9. What does considerate mean?
10. What does submissive mean?
11. Is it still possible to get into a fight if we are thinking of the other person’s feelings and letting them have what they want?
12. Who can help you have an unselfish attitude?

Key concepts

James says the reason we fight and quarrel is because we desire to have the things others have.

This passage also talks about “gimme-gimme” prayers. “Gimme-gimme” prayers are selfish prayers. It is not good to pray, treating God like He is a vending machine who will give out things just to make us happy. When we ask God for things, we need ask with the right reasons. If our only motivation for asking God for something is for our own pleasure, we need to rethink our prayer to make sure it is not a “gimme-gimme” prayer.

Satan tempts us to be selfish, but when we accept God’s wisdom, choose to be considerate of others and let others have their way, we keep the peace.