James 4:1-10 Pg 1012 I. You have a battle to fight, but not against one another, (1-6) II. God has a plan that will result in victory, will you follow it? (7-10)

Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.**The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

Why does James use the vocabulary of war to describe the ways in which Christians fail in our relationships with one another (v. 1-2)? Do you see this the same way, why or why not?

What explanation does James provide to explain why people's prayers are not always answered (v. 3)?

In v. 4, what two pictures of our relationship with God does James provide? What's his point?

In vv. 5-6, we are reminded that God has given us His Spirit and His grace. Why is it comforting to know that God is on our side and His resources (patience, initiative, love, generosity, and grace) cannot be depleted? Although we have God's Spirit and His unending grace, why isn't our sanctification instantaneous or easy (see Jas. 1:2-4)?

Discuss the battle plan James maps out for us in vv. 7-10. How does following God's plan ensure victory. How should you respond to this passage?