It’s Complicated

Small Group Discussion Questions

James 4:1-10

1. Most of the conflict we experience with others starts with a conflict going on inside of us, when what we want begins to rule how we act. Think about a recent disagreement or tension in your life. What desire was really driving your reaction underneath the surface?

2. Even our prayers can quietly become a way of asking God to serve our plans instead of surrendering to His. When you look honestly at what you have been asking God for lately, what do those requests reveal about what matters most to you?

3. Drifting toward the world rarely looks like open rebellion. More often it looks like caring more about what people think, letting culture shape our convictions, or wanting God's blessings without His authority. Which of these pulls is the hardest for you to resist right now, and why do you think it has such a strong grip?

4. There is a big difference between staying committed to God only while life goes according to plan and remaining faithful because He is faithful to us even when we are not. When life has not gone the way you hoped, how has your commitment to God been tested? What helps you stay faithful in those seasons?

5. God opposes the proud but pours out more grace on the humble, and humility looks like submitting to Him and standing firm against the enemy. Where might pride be keeping you from receiving the grace God wants to give you? What would submitting that area to Him look like this week?

6. When we draw near to God, He draws near to us, but coming close means taking our sin seriously enough to grieve it and turn from it. Is there something you have been holding on to that is keeping distance between you and God? What is one step you could take to let it go?

Takeaway: You can't get closer to God while holding on to what keeps you from Him.