

But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 (ESV)

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:34-35 (ESV)

What should I do when church isn't my way?

...You do not have, because you do not ask. James 4:2 (ESV)

...The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. James 5:16 (ESV)

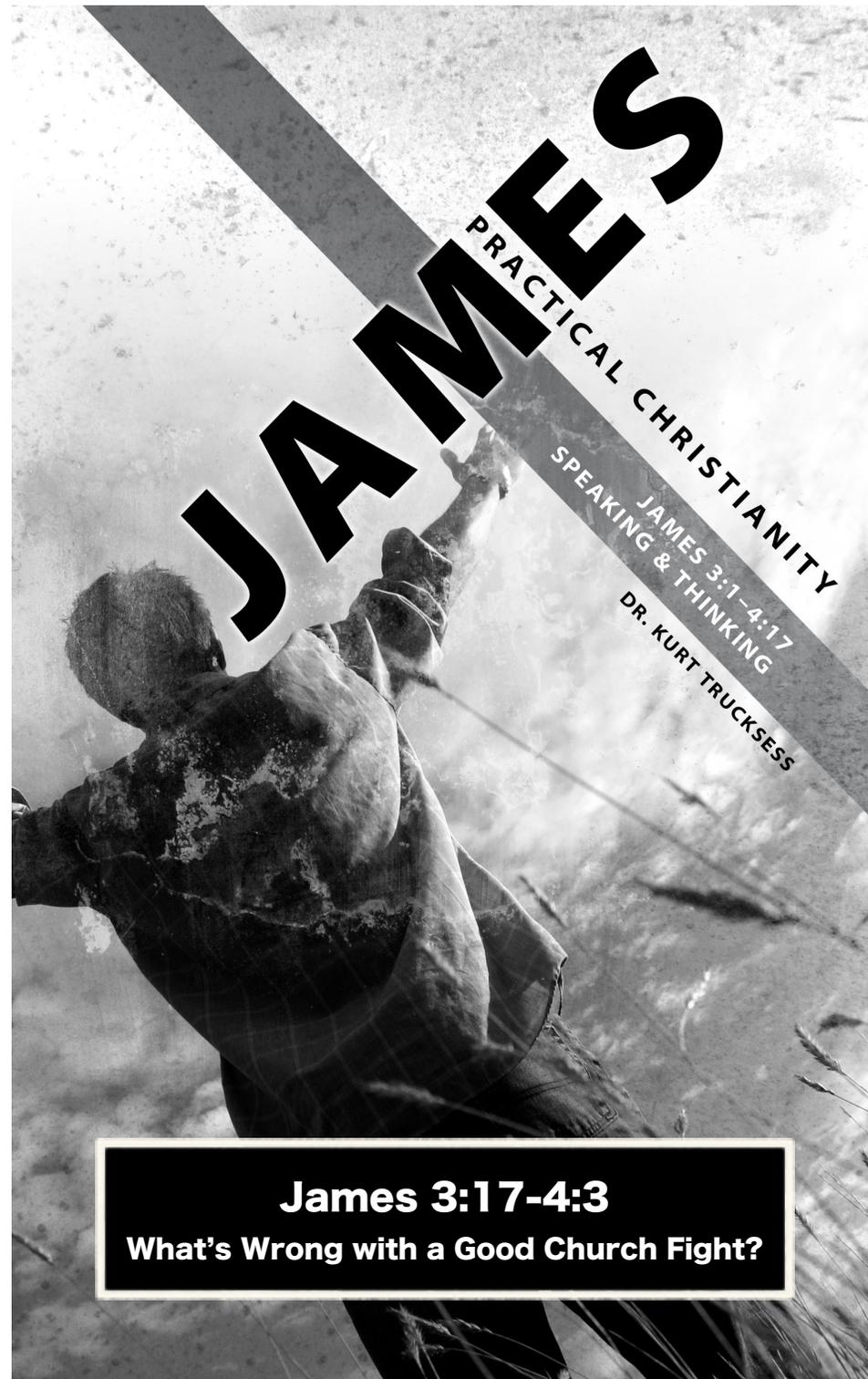
Why will God not answer my prayers for change?

You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. James 4:3 (ESV)

I hope as I make advances in the spiritual life, I shall show my zeal more and more tempered with true Christian knowledge and prudence... I desire not only to do things for God, but to do them in the best manner... While others are disputing, let us be growing. This will be the best way to convince those, who you find will not be convinced any other way. I lose nothing by being quiet and leaving all to Him. -Dallimore, George Whitefield, Vol. 2, pg. 75.

Want To Learn More? This handout, small group questions, sermon manuscripts, audio and video are available at www.christ2Rculture.com. You can also find sermon video and audio on iTunes by searching for "Kurt Trucksess"

Next Week: James 4:4-5 - Spiritual Adultery
Two Weeks: James 4:5-6 - He Gives More Grace



James 3:17-4:3

What's Wrong with a Good Church Fight?



Faith Church - EFCA

August 21, 2011

James 3:17-4:3 - What's Wrong with a Good Church Fight?

But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. James 3:17 (ESV)

How does godly wisdom change our thinking?

Pure

Peaceable

Gentle

Open to Reason

Full of Mercy

Good Fruits

Impartial

Sincere

Where do most fights come from?

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. James 4:1-3 (ESV)

All men seek happiness. This is without exception. Whatever different means they employ, they all tend to this end. The cause of some going to war, and of others avoiding it, is the same desire in both, attended with different views. The will never takes the least step but to this object. This is the motive of every action of every man, even of those who hang themselves. (Blaise Pascal)

I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. 1 Corinthians 1:10 (ESV)

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, Philippians 1:27 (ESV)