

SELF: Addressing “I, Me, My, Mine”

James 4:1-3

1. **PROBLEM**: Fighting and quarreling.
2. **REASON**: Self-centered desires.
3. **RESULT**: Look at what happens when we don't get our way:
 - a) Murderous thoughts, words and actions.
 - b) Arguments.
 - c) Failure to pray.
 - d) Prayer with wrong motives.

Selfish desires lead to selfish actions.

Definition of the flesh. Two uses in the Bible: Literal flesh and bones and the sin nature. Ryre "...that principle of sin within all of us...In it is nothing good" Bubeck "an internal part of my very person that I inherited from the Fall. It is wicked and depraved. It can never be reformed or improved because it flows out from God's judgment upon the sin of the Fall." Grimstad: "It is corrupt and twisted. It is totally depraved, that is, there is a moral twist at the root of our nature. I cannot "reform or improve" my flesh. FLESH - take off the h and spell it backwards = SELF. Illustration of a twisted car frame that can never be fully repaired. It always travels down the road crooked. **Rom 7:18** *I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.*

How to live in victory over the flesh: Romans and Galatians

1. **POSITION: Dead to sin.**
2. **PUT on the Lord Jesus Christ.**
3. **POWER: Walk by the Spirit.**