**Authentic** *(Series Graphic)*

**Bench Test of the Believer**—James 1:1-18

**The Perfect Mirror**—James 1:19-27

**Me? Prejudice?** —James 2:1-13

**Dying Faith** –James 2:14-26

**One Small Spark**—James 3:1-12

**Wisdom from Above and Below**—James 3:13-18

**Choose Your Friends Wisely**

1. **Cause** of Conflict

(James 4:1)

“What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from **your desires** that battle within you?

 Cause: It’s **YOU**.

 The real conflict is the conflict **in you**.

 The conflict in you **manifests** in the conflict **around you**.

(James 4:2-3)

“You desire but do not have, so you kill. **You covet** but you cannot get what you want, so you **quarrel and fight**. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with **wrong motives**, that you may spend what you get on your **pleasures**.”

1. **Consequence** of Conflict

(James 4:4)

“You **adulterous** people, don’t you know that **friendship with the world** means **enmity** against God? Therefore, anyone who **chooses** to be a friend of the world **becomes an enemy of God**.”

 Consequence: **the wrath of God**.

1. **Cure** for Conflict

(James 4:6)

“But he gives us more grace. That is why the Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”

(James 4:7)

“**Submit** yourselves, then, to **God**. **Resist** the **devil**, and he will flee from you.”

(Romans 5:9-10)

“Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from **God’s wrath** through him! For if, **while we were God’s enemies**, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!”

 Cure: **draw near to God**.

(James 4:8)

“**Come near to God** and **he will come near to you**. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”