HFG Questions
Resolving Conflict God's Way—Part 4
("Watch What You Say")
James 4:11–12

***Read James 4:1–12**

1. Looking back at James 4:1–6, what does James teach us about the real source of quarrels and conflicts? How should understanding this change the way we respond when conflict comes into our lives?

2. In James 4:7–10, James gives us several commands for resolving conflict God's way. Which of these commands do you find most challenging to obey, and why?

3. In James 4:11, James commands us not to speak against one another. What is the difference between gossip and slander? Why are both so harmful to the church?

4. Why is it important to distinguish between lovingly confronting someone about their sin (Matthew 18:15–17) and speaking negatively about them behind their back?

5. In Sunday's sermon, we learned that slander is an old, cowardly, malicious, broad, serious, and pervasive sin. Which of these descriptions stood out to you most, and why?

6. Read Matthew 15:18–20. What does Jesus teach us about the connection between our hearts and our words? How can bitterness or resentment toward someone lead us into the sin of slander?

7. Why is it wrong to share negative information about another person, even when that information is true? What questions should we ask ourselves before sharing something that might damage another person's reputation?

8. Read 1 Peter 4:8 and Matthew 18:15. How should genuine Christian love affect the way we handle the sins and shortcomings of others?

9. According to James 4:11–12, how does speaking against or wrongly judging another believer demonstrate disrespect for God's Law and for God Himself?