

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring large sand dunes under a sunset sky. The sand in the foreground is marked with numerous small, rhythmic ripples. A series of footprints leads from the bottom left towards the center of the image, winding up a dune. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and blue.

Seven

WELL-WORN PATHS

James 4.1-10

James 4

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

James 4

² 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.

James 4

³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

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.

James 4

⁵ Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?

James 4

⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why
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.

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.

James 4

⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

James 4

¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Pride and Vainglory

- What are we talking about?

Pride and Vainglory

- What are we talking about?
 - So, is the problem pride or vainglory?

Pride and Vainglory

- What are we talking about?
 - So, is the problem pride or vainglory?
 - Isn't self-esteem good?

Pride and Vainglory

- What are we talking about?
- Why is it so dangerous?

James 4

⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why
Scripture says:

“God opposes the proud
but shows favor to the humble.”

Pride and Vainglory

- How we have been affected

Pride and Vainglory

- What to do about it.

James 4

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Pride and Vainglory

- Poor in spirit

James 4

⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you.

Pride and Vainglory

- Poor in spirit
- Vulnerability

James 4

Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

Pride and Vainglory

- Poor in spirit
- Vulnerability
- Confession

James 4

¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Dear Abba,

I've come to the place where I'm letting You love me more each day, but I still struggle with letting you like me. I realize that has much more to do with me than with You, not to mention my on-going cycle of attraction to tenderness, then repulsion, then back again.

Thank you for your still, small advances toward me that display that yes, my Abba is very fond of me! Please help my unbelief. I want to rest safe in Your arms.

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring large sand dunes. The foreground is covered in sand with distinct, wavy ripples. A series of footprints leads from the bottom left towards the center of the image, winding up a dune. The sky is filled with clouds, and the sun is setting or rising, creating a warm, golden glow across the scene. The word "Seven" is written in a white, cursive font in the upper left area.

Seven

WELL-WORN PATHS