

# St Peter's Barge

## London's Floating Church

Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

### Welcome!

Marcus Nodder is leading and preaching

**SONG:** There is a higher throne

Most merciful Father, our Creator and Judge,  
we acknowledge and confess  
that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed.  
We have not loved you with all our heart;  
and we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We earnestly repent,  
and are truly sorry for all our sins.  
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us, and strengthen us to serve and obey you  
in lives wholly renewed by your Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**READING:** Psalm 46

**SLOT:** Responding to the coronavirus situation

**SONG:** Speak O Lord

**READING:** James 4:1-12

**TALK**

**PRAYER**

**SONG:** Before the throne

**Q&A** (on Zoom)

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**NEXT SUNDAY –**

Title: Right perspective (James 4:13-5:11)

Speaker: Marcus Nodder

James 4:1-12

**4** What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

<sup>4</sup>You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup>Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"?

<sup>6</sup>But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

<sup>11</sup>Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. <sup>12</sup>There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

English Standard Version (ESV)  
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**JAMES**  
James 4:1-12  
Ultimate friendship

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- our experience of conflict

**PROBLEM**

**Conflict analysis (v1-5)**

- conflict with others (v1-3)
  - o warring of passions (v1-2a)
  - o neglect of prayer (v2b-3)
- conflict with God (v4-5)
  - o enemy of God (v4b)
  - o unfaithful to God (v4a,5)

**SOLUTION**  
**Conflict resolution (v6-12)**

- conflict with God (v6-10)
  - o humble yourself before God (v6,10)
  - o submit yourself to God (v7-9)
    - resist the devil & draw near to God
    - cleanse your hands & purify your hearts
    - be wretched & mourn
- conflict with others (v11-12)
  - o stop breaking the law of love (v11)
  - o stop taking the place of God (v12)

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**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Anything you want to talk about from what you've heard? What is your most recent experience of conflict? How does this passage help you reflect on what happened? What will you do differently going forward?