

ANGER

Sunday, October 18, 2020 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Dave Winters

ANGER

James 1:19-20

Anger can be destructive and self-centered or anger can be life-giving and God-centered—and sometimes anger is just the human response to life in a fallen world.

¹⁹Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

James 1:19-20

Let every person be **QUICK** to hear. (v. 19)

Let every person be **SLOW** to speak. (v. 19)

Let every person be **SLOW** to anger. (v. 19)

The anger of man *does not* produce the righteousness of God. (v. 20)

Anger as murder and violence

Anger as manipulation and coercion

The anger of God *does* produce the righteousness of God.

*Anger is not the defining feature of God,
it's a **TEMPORARY** response to sin in this world.*

1. Anger is good as a crucial step in **REPENTANCE**.

¹⁰Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2 Corinthians 7:10 (NIV)

2. Anger is good as a crucial step toward **FORGIVING** others.

Romans 12:19; Colossians 3:13; Matthew 6:14-15

3. Anger is good as a crucial step toward **HEALING**.

Psalm 13:1ff; Jeremiah 15:15-19; Psalm 22

4. Anger is good as it makes us take **ACTION** for good/righteousness. Matthew 21:12-13; Acts 17:16



What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.

Welcome to Life Groups! We're studying the fruit that the Holy Spirit grows in our lives as we stay close to Jesus.

Getting Started

Getting to Know You: Part of our goal together is getting to know one another. *What is your biggest pet peeve? Why does it bother you so much? :*

Review your message notes and this week's Scripture. What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it with your group.

Anger

Anger can be destructive and self-centered or anger can be life-giving and God-centered and sometimes anger is just the human response to life in a fallen world.

1. On a scale of 1-10 how would you rate yourself? — 1 being "I'm always fired up (angry) about something" and 10 being "I avoid anger & angry people at all cost." Why do you give yourself that number?
2. What does self-centered anger look like compared to God-centered anger?

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. – *James 1:19-20*

3. Quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger. In what specific relationships do you need to practice these truths? Which one is easiest/hardest for you to practice?

²¹ Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits. – *Proverbs 18:21*

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. – *Ephesians 4:29*

4. How do these verses regulate and guide our use of anger? How may anger be "helpful for building others up?"
5. Reflect on times you've seen anger be destructive? Other times when you've seen anger be life-giving and necessary?

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Continued from Life Groups Homework on previous page...

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. – *Psalm 86:15*

¹³ Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. – *Joel 2:13*

6. God is slow to anger. What do these verses teach us about how God's anger relates to His other attributes like love and faithfulness?
7. How would you describe "the anger of man" as opposed to "the anger of God"?
8. Why should we worship and love the Lord because He is a God who has anger, though He is slow to anger?
9. Anger is not the defining feature of God, it's a **temporary** response to sin, His defining character is love and grace. How do we do make anger a "temporary" place we go?
10. **The anger of God produces the righteousness of God.** This week's message talked about 4 ways anger is good. Which one is most important for you right now?

Word Find for James 1:19-24 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

¹⁹ **Know** this, my **beloved brothers**: let **every person** be **quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger**; ²⁰ for the **anger** of man does not **produce** the **righteousness** of God.

²¹ **Therefore** put **away** all **filthiness** and **rampant** wickedness and **receive** with **meekness** the **implanted** word, which is **able** to **save** your **souls**. ²² But be **doers** of the word, and not **hearers only, deceiving** yourselves. ²³ For if **anyone** is a **hearer** of the word and not a **doer**, he is **like** a man who **looks intently** at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he **looks at** himself and goes **away** and at once forgets what he was **like**.

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