

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

James 4:7-10 (ESV)

Drawing Near

I know that I am a sinner. I have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and deeds. I have done what I shouldn't have done. I have left undone what I should have done. My heart has not been pure. I have had a double mind. My behavior has been wretched. I take my own sinfulness seriously. This is no laughing matter. I am deeply sorry that I have sinned against you in so many ways. With a humble heart, I am bowing down before. I am admitting my sin to you. **That's good.**

I am so thankful that you have made it so I can turn away from my sin to follow you. You got my attention. You turned my life around. You helped me to see the error of my ways. You gave me a desire to know you. You gave me a hunger to seek you. Now, I love you with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. Now, I want what you want. Now, I want to live my life completely for you. **That's very good.**

I am holding on to your promises. I am drawing near to you. I know that you will draw near to me. There is no exception clause. **No, there is not.** I can count on you drawing near to me as I draw near to you. **Yes, you can. I will never leave you or forsake you. You may not always feel my closeness. You may not also realize that I am with you. But, you can hold on to me because I will be holding on to you. You are my child. I am your Heavenly Father.**

I am counting on you. I am trusting in you. I know that I cannot live a life that pleases you without your power and strength. **No, you cannot.** As I draw near to you and you draw near to me I will be resisting the devil and all the evil he will try to throw at me. I will allow your word to dwell in me richly. I know that your word will help me to think your thoughts and do your will. **Yes, it will.** I know that your word will change my heart and transform my mind. **Yes, it will.** I know that your word will push evil thoughts out of my heart and mind and life. **Yes, it will.** You will cleanse me with your word. **Yes, I will.** Your word will make me able to live and walk in ways that please you. Your word will make me able to stand against every evil and temptation. I will trust in you and all that you have to say to me as I draw near to you. **That will be very good.**

Lord, I am drawing near to you. I am humbling myself before you. I am turning away from evil and withdrawing from sin. I am submitting myself to you. Cleanse and heal me. I will walk in your ways. Use your word to push evil out of my heart and mind. Amen

Guidance *Submit Yourselves To God*

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

NIV James 4:7-10

Guidance *Humble Yourselves Before God*

So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

NLT James 4:7-10

Guidance *Submit Yourselves To God*

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy into dejection. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

NRSV James 4:7-10

Guidance *Be Subject To God*

So be subject to God. Resist the devil [stand firm against him], and he will flee from you. Come close to God and He will come close to you. [Recognize that you are] sinners, get your soiled hands clean; [realize that you have been disloyal] wavering individuals with divided interests, and purify your hearts [of your spiritual adultery]. [As you draw near to God] be deeply penitent and grieve, even weep [over your disloyalty]. Let your laughter be turned to grief and your mirth to dejection and heartfelt shame [for your sins]. Humble yourselves [feeling very insignificant] in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you [He will lift you up and make your lives significant].

AMP James 4:7-10

Guidance *Submit Therefore To God*

Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

NASB James 4:7-10

Guidance *Submit Yourselves To God*

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

ESV James 4:7-10

Guidance *Submit To God*

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

NKJV James 4:7-10

Guidance *Let God Work His Will In You*

So let God work his will in you. Yell a loud no to the Devil and watch him scamper. Say a quiet yes to God and he'll be there in no time. Quit dabbling in sin. Purify your inner life. Quit playing the field. Hit bottom, and cry your eyes out. The fun and games are over. Get serious, really serious. Get down on your knees before the Master; it's the only way you'll get on your feet.

MSG James 4:7-10

Guidance *Give Yourselves Humbly To God*

So give yourselves humbly to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. And when you draw close to God, God will draw close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and let your hearts be filled with God alone to make them pure and true to him. Let there be tears for the wrong things you have done. Let there be sorrow and sincere grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. Then when you realize your worthlessness before the Lord, he will lift you up, encourage and help you.

TLB James 4:7-10

Guidance *Give Yourselves Completely To God*

So give yourselves completely to God. Stand against the devil, and the devil will run from you. Come near to God, and God will come near to you. You sinners, clean sin out of your lives. You who are trying to follow God and the world at the same time, make your thinking pure. Be sad, cry, and weep! Change your laughter into crying and your joy into sadness. Don't be too proud in the Lord's presence, and he will make you great.

NCV James 4:7-10

Submit Yourselves To God

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Guidance – James 4:7-10

In Context: *Read James 4*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. James 4:7-10 (ESV)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Submit yourselves | therefore | to God. | Resist | the devil, | and | he will | flee | from you. | Draw near | to God, | and | he will | draw near | to you. | Cleanse | your hands, | you sinners, | and | purify | your hearts, | you | double-minded. | Be wretched | and | mourn | and | weep. | Let | your laughter | be turned | to mourning | and | your joy | to gloom. | Humble yourselves | before | the Lord, | and | he will | exalt you. James 4:7-10 (ESV)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I am drawing near to you. I am humbling myself before you. I am turning away from evil and withdrawing from sin. I am submitting myself to you. Cleanse and heal me. I will walk in your ways. Use your word to push evil out of my heart and mind. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How are you submitting yourself to God’s will and His ways?

How has God strengthened you against temptation as you have submitted yourself to Him?

How are you taking a stand against the devil and all the evil of his temptations?

How has God’s word strengthened your heart and mind and will against the devil and his evil?

How has thinking God’s thoughts by meditating on His word pushed evil out of your heart and mind?

Why must you submit yourself to God and immediately resist the devil if you hope to overcome temptation?

Why must you humbly withdraw from all evil if you want to be able to draw near to God?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Draw near to God and resist the devil so you will be able to turn away from evil and stand against temptation.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that you will be able to overcome temptation as you immediately draw near to God and resist the devil.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how God has used His word to strengthen you against temptation.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you draw near to God and resist the devil so you will be able to stand against temptation.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will draw near to you and resist the devil so I can stand against temptation.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I draw near to you and resist the devil and his temptation today?
