

Practical Christianity
Draw Nigh Unto God
James 4.7-10

James 4:7–10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸**Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.** **Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.** ⁹Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. ¹⁰**Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.**

Are you sitting at the table with the Lord Jesus Christ, enjoying sweet fellowship with our Lord.

Revelation 3:20 - Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Our text says,

James 4:8 - Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. . . .

What happens if the Lord Jesus is in you and sitting at your spiritual table and you are not sitting at the table? People do these things all the time.

Sitting at the table Illustration – There are those who,

- Just won't sit down at the table
- Are distracted at the table
- Are asleep at the table
- Won't fellowship at the table

To Draw Nigh unto God there is,

1. The Submission (vs 7) - *Submit yourselves therefore to God.*

1 John 2.3 To Submit is to be Obedient

1 John 2:3–6 - *And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.* ⁴*He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his*

commandments, **is a liar**, and the truth is not in him. ⁵But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: **hereby know we that we are in him**. ⁶He that saith he **abideth** in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

John 14.15

If you are not willing to obey God they you are not submitting to God.

John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 14:23–24 - Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. ²⁴He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

2. **The Drawing, The Desire (vs 8)** – Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. . . . – To seek after God.

Deut 4.29

Jeremiah 29:13 - And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Deuteronomy 4:29 - But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

3. **The Repentance (vs 8)** - Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

1 Jn 3.4

Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; . . . – Deal with your sin.

Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

1 John 3:4–10 - Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. ⁵And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. ⁶Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. ⁷Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. ⁸He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might

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1 . The Submission – Obey

destroy the works of the devil. ⁹Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

¹⁰In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

4. The Purified Hearts (vs 8)- Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; *and purify your hearts, ye double minded.*

- **The Double Minded – James 1:8 - A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.**

Psalm 51

Matthew 6:24 - No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

- **The Purified Heart**

Psalm 51:6 - Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

Psalm 51:9–10 - Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

5. Humbled Before God (vs 9-10) - Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. ¹⁰Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

To dwell in the house if the Lord

Psalm 15 - A Psalm of David. ¹LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? ²He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. ³He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. ⁴In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. ⁵He

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- 1 . The Submission – Obey**
- 2. The Drawing – Desire**
- 3. The Repentance**

*that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. **He that doeth these things shall never be moved.***

Grace Baptist Church, July 14, 2024

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To Draw Nigh unto God there is,

- 1 . The Submission** – Obey
- 2. The Drawing** – Desire
- 3. The Repentance**
- 4. The Purified Heart** – Allegiance,
Dedication
- 5. The Humility** - Surrender