

Faith that Works

April 29, 2007

"The Weight of Grace"

James 4:7-10

Action

Submit & Resist



Outcome

Deliverance

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7

Action

Come Near
Wash Hands
Purify Mind



Outcome

Intimacy with God

"Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded." James 4:8

Action

Grieve, Mourn, Wail
& Humble Yourself



Outcome

Exaltation

"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." James 4:9-10

Going Deeper

1. Considering the descriptions below, which of them best represents your posture toward sin?
 - a. Apathetic about its presence in your life. (James 1:21)
 - b. Afraid because of God's coming judgment. (1 John 4:18)
 - c. Grieved over offending God. (James 4:9)
2. Considering the Biblical narrative, both Old and New Testaments, identify some of the stories that you feel best represent God's posture toward sin?
3. Considering the story of Jonah, with whom can you most closely identify—Jonah or the Ninevites?
4. Considering the story of the Prodigal Son, with whom can you most closely identify—the younger or older son? (Luke 15:11-32)
5. Of the actions listed in James 4:7-10, which do you need to give greater attention?
6. Of the outcomes listed in James 4:7-10, which do you feel you experience often? Which do you long to experience more fully?
7. What have you most enjoyed about our study in James to date? What have you least enjoyed?

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