

Sermon Resources

Sermon: Submission

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WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

James 4:1-10

OUR UNRESTRAINED DESIRES DISTORT OUR RELATIONSHIPS, OUR PRAYERS, AND OUR FAITH.

GOD HAS MORE GRACE THAN WE CAN RECEIVE.

(SERMON IN A SENTENCE) Real faith walks in the freedom of submission.

WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK?

- **ICEBREAKER:** Where in your life has the freedom to choose actually led you into trouble—or into something you later regretted? What made the “freedom” in that moment feel so appealing?

- Ask someone to read James 4:1-10 out loud

- James opens chapter 4 with a question: “What causes fights and quarrels among you?” How does his answer challenge our assumptions about conflict?
- When you reflect on recent tension (at home, work, church), what internal desire might have been at war in you during that moment?
- How often do you pause to consider the motives behind your prayers—and what do you typically find?

HOW TO INTENTIONALLY SUBMIT:

1. RESIST THE DEVIL

2. RESIST THE WORLD

3. RESIST THE DEVIL

4. RESIST THE WORLD

MEMORY VERSE: But he gives us more grace. James 4:7a

- Why do you think humility is the soil in which grace grows best?
- In your life right now, where do you sense God inviting you to “come near” (v.8)? What is keeping you at a distance?
- What does resistance look like—and where does it feel hardest right now (the devil, the world, the flesh)?
- How does repentance feel to you: heavy and shameful, or liberating and hopeful? Why?
- What is one area of your life where Jesus is inviting you to walk in the “freedom of submission”?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Father, help us to walk in the freedom of submission. Show us where we need to intentionally resist in order to find the freedom you offer in following Jesus.