**Faith at Work: A Study in James Series April 24, 2022**

**Humility Before God**

Humility Begins with **Submission to God** James 4:7

* Submit – willing attitude of cooperating with the leading of another
  + Jesus submitted Himself to His parents (Luke 2:51)
  + Jesus submits Himself to Father God (1 Corinthians 15:28)
  + The church submits to Christ (Ephesians 5:24a)
  + Employees submit to their employer (Titus 2:9)

Drawing Near to God James 4:8a

* **Intentional movement** toward the Lord
  + This action results in a promise: God will come toward us as we go to Him
  + Draw near to God through:

**Simplifying**  
**Solace**  
**Silence**  
**Serenity** (retreat)  
**Prayer:** Talking with God  
**Worship:** glorifying God  
**Study:** spiritual growth  
**Fasting:** self-denial

Cleanse Your Hands & Purify Your Hearts James 4:8b

* Removing those things from our lives which **separate us from God**
  + Repentance of sins
  + Devotion to purity

James 4:9 (NASB)  
**Be miserable** and **mourn** and **weep**; let your laughter be **turned** into mourning and your joy to gloom.

* Express **sorrow or grief** over sins that were sourced in sinful habits, patterns that came from double-mindedness
  + Double Minded: being committed to both God and the world

James 4:10   
Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

* Genuine repentance, brokenness over sin, and intent to seek purity in our lives will result in a person whose **humility** shows through
  + God will reward the believer who submits to this regularly

God Alone is Our Judge James 4:11-12

* If / when we speak against another person we step into the role of judge
* Slander of brothers / sisters puts us in the place of what is assigned to God alone

**What does this mean for me?**

* Are you fully submitted to God’s leading in your life?
  + Are you intentionally drawing near to Him?
  + Do you need to simplify your life and begin adding in times of silence and solitude so that you can submit to the Lord’s leading more fully?
* What sins has the Holy Spirit revealed to you this morning that you need to cleanse?
* How can you purify those areas of your life so that you do not continue to fall into those sins?
  + Put some safeguards in your life to keep from sinning
* Have you been speaking ill of a brother or sister in Christ in front of others?
  + Have you put yourself in the place of judging their heart, mind, attitude and actions?
* This week, every day, pray and seek the Lord
  + Is there anything in your life that is inhibiting you from drawing near to God?
  + What things in life do you need to set aside in order to allow time for the Lord?
  + Ask God to remove obstacles for you

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**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:** glorifying God  
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Cleanse Your Hands & Purify Your Hearts James 4:8b

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