Week 4:

Am I Drawing Closer to God?

Questions

1. What illustration, story, or scripture had the greatest impact on you this week?
2. Ron compared pride and humility like this: “Pride says stay away; I got this. Humility says come close; I need You.” Which of those statements feels more like your posture with God right now? What do you do that reinforces that posture, whether it is good or bad?
3. The Four C’s of Drawing Near were: Confession, Competition, Crying Out, Coming To. Which of those do you think is hardest for you, and which ones come more naturally? What habits can you build to make these C’s more natural?
4. When you experience trials, is your instinct to pull away from God or press in? What would “drawing near” look like for you right now in that situation?
5. James 4:8 says, “Come close to God, and God will come close to you.” How do you usually “come close” to God? What’s one way you could be more intentional about that this week? Why do you think God places the invitation on us to “come close” first? What does that reveal about God’s character—and our responsibility in the relationship?
6. James talks about “resisting the devil.” On the spectrum from speed bumps to barricades to bulldozers—what does resistance look like in your life right now?
7. What are some of your “opportune times”—moments when you’re more vulnerable to temptation, discouragement, or doubt? What patterns have you noticed? How can you be ready for when the devil’s opportune time comes?
8. When it comes to “competition,” what’s currently competing with God for your attention, affection, or trust? It could be something obviously unhealthy—or even something good that’s gotten too much of your heart. How do you think God is inviting you to reorder those priorities?
9. James calls for sorrow and tears as part of repentance. That feels heavy—but why do you think God honors that kind of humility? What does true repentance look like, beyond just saying “sorry”?
10. What is one practical step you can put into practice this week?

Scripture References

Read: James 4:6-9

Takeaways

- Authentic-Sturdy Faith Indicators in James:
    - I endure trials and temptations
    - I do what God’s Word says
    - I display a Godly tongue and Godly wisdom

Week 4:

Am I Drawing Closer to God?

- Authentic-Study Faith Indicator:
    - I draw close to God in humility
- Trials produce something.
- The Word produces something.
- God's grace produces something.
- How will you receive them?
- Pride says stay away; I got this.
- Humility says come close; I need you.
- The Four C's of Drawing Near in Humility
    - Confess
    - Check competition
    - Cry out
    - Come to