QUESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY

1. Tell your story. Describe a time when you experienced an especially

 close time with the Lord during a quiet time, at a retreat, etc.

2. Why are true friendships often rare?

3. Read the following passages and note what the Bible says about

 God’s desire to be close to us:

 a) Zephaniah 3:17

b) I Timothy 2:3-4

c) Hebrews 6:17-18

d) II Peter 3:9

e) I John 3:1-3

f) I John 4:10

g) Revelation 3:20

4. How is drawing near to God different now than it was in the Old

 Testament?

5. What practical application are you going to make from this week’s

 message? (*Share your decision with another person*.)

* I am going to set aside at least 30 minutes each day in the next week to spend time with the Lord.
* I am going to call someone I consider a close friend this week and thank them for their friendship.
* I am going to memorize I John 4:10.

Cornerstone Church August 21, 2022

James 4:6-10 Study Series #08

***Drawing Near to God***

**I. Introduction**

 A. True Friendship

 (See John 15:13; John 15:15)

 B. Friendship with God

 (See James 4:4; John 15:13-15; James 2:23; Genesis 15:6;

 Revelation 3:20; James 4:6)

“We are at this moment as close to God as we really choose to be. True, there are times when we would like to know a deeper intimacy, but when it comes to the point, we are not prepared to pay the price involved.”

 *Enjoying Intimacy with God, J. Oswald Sanders*

**II. Drawing Near to God**

 A. The Principle

 (See James 4:7; Philippians 2:5-8; Matthew 26:39; Luke 22:42;

 I Corinthians 14:33; Ephesians 4:27)

 B. Resist

 (See James 4:7; James 4:4; I John 2:15-17; John 8:44;

 I John 3:8; Revelation 12:10; Zechariah 3:1-5; Genesis 3:1-5;

 Romans 8:1-2; Psalm 84:11; Ephesians 6:11-17;

 Hebrews 12:4; Matthew 4:1-9; Luke 4:1-13)

 C. Draw Near

 (See James 4:8; Hebrews 10:19-22; Leviticus 23:36-27;

 Matthew 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45; Hebrews 4:14-16)

D. Cleanse

 (See James 4:8; Exodus 30:19-21; Leviticus 15:11;

 Isaiah 1:15-16; Ps 18:20; I Timothy 2:8; Psalm 26:6)

 E. Purify

 (James 4:8; Hebrews 4:12; James 1:8; Matthew 6:24;

 Matthew 12:30; Psalm 24:3-4; Psalm 51:10; Matthew 15:19;

 Jeremiah 4:14; Ezekiel 18:31; Isaiah 55:6-7)

 F. Humble

 (See James 4:10; Proverbs 29:23; Isaiah 57:15;

 Matthew 23:11-12; Luke 14:11; Luke 15:11-32)

**III. Conclusion**

If you would like to know more about what it means to be a Christian, or if you would like to talk with someone or have someone pray for you, please contact the church office and the pastor will contact you.

**Passage of Study**

James 4:6-10

**6** “God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble.” **7**Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. **8**Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. **9**Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. **10**Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

“Only when a man recognizes his own ignorance will he ask for God’s guidance. Only when a man realizes his own poverty… will he pray for the riches of God’s grace. Only when a man recognizes his own weakness…will he come to draw upon God’s strength. Only when a man realizes his own sin will he realize his need of a Savior and of God’s forgiveness.” *William Barclay, Scottish author*

All quotations are taken from the New American Standard unless otherwise noted. NASB. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers 1995. A free PDF of this note sheet is available at: www.cssbchurch.org/sermons-2. © 2022.