

Life Group Homework

The Road to Spiritual Renewal

James 4:7-10

Let's Get Started

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.” -James 4:7-10

Do you think the primary person James is speaking to is the converted believer or the non-believer? Why? Think back on **James 3:13**. Was James warning against the worldly wisdom of believers or non-believers?

So, as you ponder these two passages, do you think James is calling back-sliders to repent and turn back to God, or is he offering the path of salvation to non-believers? How do you support your answer?

Let's Go Deeper

Revival

In these four verses (**James 4:7-10**), James gives us a list of 10 elements of response to the Gospel that God requires of repentant sinners. Can you identify all 10?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

The term “revival” appears in various forms in the Old Testament at least 250 times and five times in the New Testament. **True or false?** Revival is something that happens to non-believers.

Why did you answer the way you did?

How would you define revival?

In verse 7, James shows us the first step towards to salvation: “*Submit yourselves therefore to God.*” In your own words, consider the questions below:

Submitting to God means following Jesus, and following Jesus demands that one be a risk-taker. What types of things might a person have to risk to fully submit to God and follow Jesus?

In the scriptures below, discover the five **“if’s”** of a disciple of Jesus:

John 13:35

John 8:31-32

Mark 8:34-35

Luke 14:25-26

Luke 14:27

According to **Ephesians 6:10-11**, what is the strategy for resisting the devil’s influence?

How do you think you “put on” the armor of God, and how often do you think we need to “put it on?”

Such a Deal!

In **James 4:8a**, we see that whether a person has lived in ignorant or willful rebellion against God, God offers them an amazing deal! What is the deal God offers—and what is the condition?

Think about it. Write down three things you know about this “deal” that is so absolutely amazing.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Revival in America

What does **James 4:8b** teach us about the conditions that must be met for true revival to happen in America? Christians must get real with their dirty _____ and their divided _____.

You and I are Christians—we are the American church. Are our hands dirty and in need of cleansing? In what ways?

As believers, are our hearts divided? In what areas? What do we need to get honest about, and where is our need for repentance?

Read **James 4:9** and have a heartfelt conversation with yourself based on the following question: What types of things are we Christians casual about that God would say we need to feel sorrowful about?

Let's Live It Out Together

“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.” -James 4:10

Have a group member read **Psalms 119:25**.

Let's make revival personal. Before true revival can be a reality in our country, the church has to deal with pride and be willing to address it truthfully. What about our Life Group? Perhaps we can start with us this week.

Consider ending with a heartfelt time of open prayer, asking the Lord to show us any signs that we have dirty hands, divided hearts, or prideful spirits.