



“Draw Near To God”

Sun June 7, 2026

I. **James 4:7-8**

A. The Powerful Response of Submission

1. Your Submission to God is a Response to His Goodness...
2. Think of it this way: You are either submitted to God or Yourself (same as being submitted to Satan....ME, ME, ME); when you willingly and lovingly give your heart, your soul, your strength, and your mind to the Lord, He in return gives you the power to overcome everything in this life.

B. Draw Near...

1. **Come close, Approach, Be at Hand**
2. What is Satan fighting most in your life? Answer: Your Relationship With God
 - Why Relationship? Because Relationship Brings Revelation and Revelation Brings Power (over your enemy). *“Blessed art thou Simon Barjona...and I will give you the keys...” (Matthew 16:17-19).*
 - If your enemy can put doubt in your heart concerning your confidence with your Heavenly Father, then he has accomplished his goal. All Satan needs is DISTANCE (a gap) between you and God!
3. One of the greatest distance barriers that Satan’s hand of deception has been so fruitful over the years and has created a stronghold in so many minds is the “Servant Mentality”.
 - Listen to the words of Jesus and let them forever be settled in your heart: **John 15:15** *“I no longer call you servants, but friends...”*
 - “God, I just want to be USED by you.” – A servant is Used, but a Child is Loved! – Change it to **“Lord, thank you for loving me!”**
 - You will never be able to approach God with confidence with a servant’s mentality. (Purify your hearts your DOUBLEMINDED....unstable in all his ways). Notice where the responsibility lies.... “YOU, Draw Near...”

II. The Prodigal Son – The Father’s Heart

A. **Luke 15:17-24**

1. This story is more about the Father and His unwavering love than a rebellious and prideful son.
2. Something you must see....The moment the son drew near, the Father RAN!

B. Living As A Child of God

1. **You Stop Performing For Approval** (You realize God’s love is unconditional and You go from working for His love, to Living From His Love).
2. **Your Approach to Prayer Changes** (Instead of a Rigid list of requests to a distant boss, it becomes an intimate conversation with a loving parent).
3. **You Embrace Your Inheritance** (Servants get wages...Sons Inherit the kingdom.). /**Hebrews 4:16** *“Let us...” Not because of what we have done...*