Foundation Scripture: James 4:6-10

I. Recap from Last Week

- A. Your Response is Necessary
 - 1. Faith without works is dead being alone.
 - 2. My submission to God is My Response to His Goodness!
- B. The Benefits of Submission
 - 1. Power, Protection, and Peace
 - 2. When you are in the right place with God, you have power over the enemy, protection from trouble, and peace in everything you do!

II. How do I submit?

A. Meditate in His Word (Psalm 1:2 & Joshua 1:8)

- 1. Studies on Meditation...Telomeres (protective caps on the ends of chromosomes/like the plastic tip on the end of a shoelace) (Sandy Colvin)
- 2. If natural studies show the power in relaxing and focusing on purpose and good things, imagine what casting your care over on Jesus and resting in Him will do!

B. Keep His Commandments...(I John 3:22 and I John 5:3)

- 1. We can ask because we are submitted...we know he hears and answers.
- 2. How do I keep His commandments?....By Faith (Hebrews 11:6)...Remember, God's laws are given to protect you and they are not difficult by any means.
- 3. Look at God's commandments in a different light: They are not given as something that I am told to do...or else; but rather, the Word and His commandments are something I love to do...My Father told me these things so I can avoid trouble (Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world).

C. Give Him Praise

- 1. I enter His courts with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise... (Psalm 100:4)
- 2. I will give Him the sacrifice of praise continually, giving thanks to His name. (Hebrews 13:15)
- 3. One of the greatest ways to show my adoration and submission is kneeling before His presence and/or raising my hands in surrender. (I Timothy 2:8) (Every knee is going to bow one day...make it a willing submission instead of a made submission!)
- 4. Praise not only "stills" the enemy, but it brings peace to your heart and rest to your mind. (Habakkuk 3:17-19)

D. Help Others

- Remember the lawyer that asked "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- 2. Do unto others...(**Matthew 7:12** "This is God's law..." and it is not difficult).

- 3. **Galatians 6:10** "As you have opportunity, do good..."
- 4. This is how God knows that you are His disciple (submitted in every way)...showing love, forgiveness, and help to each other.

E. Be Willing to Hear and Quick to Obey

- 1. **Isaiah 1:19** "If you be willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land."
- 2. If you are in the right position...if you are in the right place to "see" what God is saying to you...then you will never miss God. Too many people are moved by their emotions, or they allow what they see in the "natural" to dictate the voice of God in their lives; in fact...allow me a moment to show you something that most Christians miss in their submission: Submission is about 2 things: *Hearing and Obeying*. In the O.T., people would "Go" and then God would "Show" (Abraham...depart from your country) / In the N.T., however, God "Shows" and then we "Go". (The Holy Spirit guides us and shows us things to come/Jesus was shown in detail God's plan for Him for the crucifixion, etc.) (People that leave one church for another and when asked... "where are you going?" And they answer: "I don't know, we are just walking by faith...." (That's not the way God does it...He shows and then you go!)
- 3. Don't miss God's best in your life because something hasn't lined up with the way you want it (Be PATIENT and learn to submit to God's gently voice and counsel of those who God has placed in authority to speak into your life).
 - ** John the Baptist lost sight of who Jesus was through his offence
 - ** Paul and Barnabas Acts 15:36-41 / Acts 13:2-3
 - ** The Power of accountability and counsel (I Peter 5:5 / Ephesians 5:21)