

THE BOOK OF
JAMES
 MAKING FAITH WORK

**DRAW CLOSE
 TO GOD**
 James 4.1-12

Key Points :

- James 4:1-8 encourages us to face the battles of life with humility, resistance (v.7), and by drawing close to God (v. 8) - as God then draws close to us (v.8)! We draw close to God through:
 - 1. **Prioritisation:** It is important to do this corporately e.g. through attending church and doing outreach, but it also begins with our personal relationship with God.
 - 2. **Communication:** Prayer & Worship, Scripture, and Journaling – Helps focus our minds on Him and reveals correlations in God's communication with us.
 - 3. **Imitation:** We draw close to God, by becoming more like Him. This happens through internalising Scripture, keeping His commandments (cf. Matt. 22:37-39), copying Jesus (Isa. 61:1) and fulfilling His mission (Matt. 28:18-20).

Questions:

Conversation Starter

1. Who is the person (or people) you are closest to and how do you invest in that relationship?

Start Thinking & Sharing

2. In what areas would you like to draw closer to God?
3. Where can you prioritise Him more?
4. How would you like to increase communication with Him?
5. How can you get more involved in Christ's mission as you imitate Him?

Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

6. *Lord, please help us to draw closer to you and expect closeness in return. Forgive us for where we have not always prioritised you and help us to reinvest in our relationship with increased communication. We desire to become more like you and to do your work on this earth. Amen.*

Start doing. Commit to a step, and live it out this week.

7. Commit to starting something new this week - either prioritisation, communication or imitation to draw close to God.