

The Real Deal a study of the book of James *chapter 4
ADMONISH: (verb) to remind, counsel, warn or inspire



Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. James 4: 8

Promises are only as good as the reliability of the one who makes them, aren't they? So when James tells these believers that their God is a generous God who will give them wisdom and will bless them when they follow His ways and that He will give grace to them and come near to them as they humbly bow before Him, it is a huge incentive. Sometimes we need to be reminded that His promises will not fail. His love for us will never end. His grace is sufficient. He is always willing to draw close to those who want Him to do so!

READ – Read these 17 verses. This chapter has a variety of topics and many action words.

Ponder and organize these thoughts or ideas in a way that will be helpful to you. What are the main ideas?

REFLECT

1. What do you think that James means when he calls these believers, his brothers and sisters, “adulterers”?

2. In the Old Testament God's jealousy for His people was a concept that the Israelites understood?

Read Exodus 20: 5, Psalm 78: 58 and 79: 5. These verses help us to understand what James meant in verse 5.

3. Humility has been a reoccurring theme in this letter.

Why do you think it is an important characteristic for one belongs to Jesus?

4. Isn't it interesting that the very next paragraph warns against the sin of judging our brothers and sisters? How can you express these ideas in your own words – James 4: 11 – 12?

5. One of the simplest and most direct reminders that James gives is found in James 4: 17. It presents a definition of sin that is penetrating, doesn't it? How is it a good summary of several other admonitions in this letter?

RESPOND – As you take some time to review Chapter 4, what do you think God's Spirit wants you to consider carefully. In humility and honesty, what will your response be to The One who humbly gave His life so that you might be His child?!