**Faith Does Week nine**

**Faith Submits**

**Study Questions:**

1. How are the calls to submit (v7) and humble (v10) ourselves contrary to the modern narrative?
2. Why should we still bother with these words in our day?
3. How would you describe submission to God?
4. In 4:7b-10, what are the five instructions James gives to bring about submission? List them below, along with what you think they mean:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| steps | meaning |
| 1. | (v 7b) |
| 2. | (v 8a) |
| 3. | (v 8b) |
| 4. | (v 9) |
| 5. | (v 10) |

1. Consider the metaphor from verse 4 of adultery toward God? How does that metaphor work in considering our posture toward God? (Think of the demeanour of one seeking forgiveness after adultery)
2. How does this help us understand why pride is so problematic in our orientation toward God?
3. Is this a description of our constant attitude toward God? How does verse 10 shape our thoughts about when this is most appropriate?
4. Considering what James has just been talking about, why is slandering a fellow believer so contrary to proper conduct?
5. Is James saying that we are not to confront our fellow believers about sin? Why or why not? What is the difference between judging someone and correcting someone?
6. Returning to verse 10. What are some of the characteristics of someone who is lifted up by God vs someone who exalts themselves? C.f. Matt 23:8-12

**James 4 ESV** **7**Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **8**Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. **9**Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. **10**Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

**11**Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. **12**There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

SWEDISH Method

