

SUBMISSION TO CHRIST
JAMES 4:1-12

PRE LG TEXT
MESSAGE QUESTIONS

How do you feel about authority or the concept of submission? What about when it comes to God's authority?

This is what we'll be discussing at Lifegroup tonight as we continue our study on the book of James.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

James 4:7

10N1 FOLLOW UP

Do you feel like you are in a place where you are fully submitted to Christ?

If not, then what areas do you need to grow in?

If you are, then how do you feel like you have changed once you decided to fully submit yourself to Christ?

INTRODUCTION

- Have you ever had trouble following the rules, direction, or leadership of authority figures?
- What are your thoughts when you hear the word "submission"?

James 4:1-3

- When you fight with others, what are the motives behind you being upset? Is it jealousy like James talked about, is it envy, impatience, comparison, etc.?
- Why would not asking God or asking with wrong motives lead to fights and quarrels?

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *When James is saying that you do not have because you don't ask God, he is not referring to material things. What he is saying here is that when you are quarreling about material things (such as things in verses 1-2), he is saying that being content and having satisfaction come from Christ alone. And these things do not come to us naturally as humans. We must ask God for these things such as contentment, satisfaction, joy, etc.*

James 4:4-8

- What does it mean to have a "friendship with the world?" Why would this make you an enemy of God?
- What do you think when you hear the word "submit"? What do you think it means to "submit" to God?
- "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." What do you think about this scripture?

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *When we submit to God, we are deciding that His ways are greater than ours. His love for His people is deeper than ours. His thoughts are purer than ours. When we submit to God, we make the conscious decision not to live the way the world lives and not live the way that we may always want to live, but live in a way that is pleasing and in line with God's ways. As we submit ourselves to God and walk more in His ways daily, then it becomes somewhat easier to say no to sin. That doesn't mean that sinning would be impossible, but that when we are submitting ourselves to Christ CONSTANTLY, we are choosing the holier things each day which makes it easier to resist temptation.*

James 4:11-12

- How does the themes of submitting to Christ relate in these scriptures? (When we are submitting to Christ, we do not speak poorly of others or judge others, we accept scripture and the "law" as it is.)
- Can we be submitted to Christ and be the "judge" of other people? Why/why not?

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *All in all, when we submit to Christ, it affects all areas of our lives. We don't feel the need to fight with others because our satisfaction and contentment come from Christ, not material possessions or others. Also, when we submit to Christ, we feel the Lord closer on a regular basis because we are in tuned with His voice. We don't feel the need to judge others or speak poorly of them, because we know that the ultimate Judge is Christ. Our hearts need to be in peaceful submission to the Lord at all times.*

APPLICATION

- What are some areas of your life that need to be submitted to God?
 - How can we hold each other accountable to help each other life in submission to Christ?

