



Discussion Prompts

The Discussion Prompts are provided to dig deeper into a sermon with the respective title mentioned on the right side of this guide (you can find the sermons at www.manheimbic.org/sermon).

Connect

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, fellowship. Just arrive after a long week of all kind of things. - Ask: Who are you personally?

Care

Carry each others burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Cry together. Support each other. Pray together. - Ask: How are you doing?

Challenge

Dive into God's word to learn from each others insight. Encourage & challenge each other to a godly life. - Ask: What is God teaching us today?

Study Guide:

As a brother of Jesus, James probably had quite a few discussions -and maybe even fights- with Jesus about the right way of *doing it God's way*. What Pastor Dustin displayed in his sermon looking at an exemplary father figure, James saw every day in his brother Jesus.

Three words stand out when we look at today's text (James 4:7-10): Submit. Resist. Abide. Three words that will lead us into our discussions today:

Submit

It is interesting that James mentions this first. When temptations come. When quarrels start. When life gets tough. Where do you do first? Do you run to God? Share with your peers what the appropriate, ideal action plan would be when things get tough? How do you actually run to God? How do you submit to God?

Resist

Now, out of this submission to God James calls us to *resist the devil*, resist temptation and not fall prey to your own sinful desires. Another NT writer has the same idea: 1 Peter 5:6-10. Underline all the action words in the James and Peter text. Which words repeat? Do you see the pattern? Which words help us make *resisting the devil* practical?

Abide

Abide, remain, behold - these are old words that basically say the same thing: **Stay connected with God!** But how do you stay connected with God? In your group, share the strategies everyone uses to **abide** in God. After sharing, make your own action plan for staying connected with God:

Now - What change of heart / mind needs to happen to get re-connected with God?

Daily - What daily routine do you have in place for connecting with God?

Weekly - What are weekly checkpoints help you to stay on course?

Make it practical. Really write down the answers to these questions above. Put them in a place where you can review them often. They will be your guide to be that person that Jesus displayed to his family and friends - a person who's faith worked.

Clarify

Know what's to do next, with the studies text, within the group, and in general. Have a mission for the week. - Ask: How do we apply what we have learned?

Celebrate

Celebrate life's success and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to *brag* about God. - Ask: What has God done in our life that deserves praise?

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts 2:42)

