

21 DAYS OF PRAYER

James 4:7–9 (ESV)

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

Big Idea

Many see prayer as a time to simply ask God for something and beg Him to do something, but prayer is much more than that. Prayer is a conversation with God. Every relationship needs consistent conversation to grow. Prayer is where God leads us, guides us, encourages us, convicts us, and changes us. It's also the place God comforts us in our trials and when the unexpected happens. These verses give us a great outline to use as we pray: Submit to God; Resist the Devil; Draw Near to God; Deal With Your Sin.

Discussion Questions

- What impacted you most about today's video teaching?
- Pastor John said that submit means to line up under. Think about some areas of your life that aren't lined up under Christ. Why do you think so many believers struggle with this?
- As a Group, read Matthew 4:1-11. Describe ways you see Jesus resisting the devil. Also describe to the Group steps you personally take battling the enemy in spiritual warfare.
- Share with the Group some ways you personally draw near to God. you draw near to God?
- 1 John 1:9 says, *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* What does it mean to confess? What happens when we sincerely confess our sin?

Prayer Focus

Spend some time alone praying through this outline. Submit everything in your life to God. Battle enemy and make sure you are dressed for battle with the armor of God. Draw near to God by spending time in solitude simply thinking about Him and all He has already done in your life. Deal with your sin by confessing it and repenting of it.

Next Step

Commit to praying through this outline for the next 7 days.