

James 4:8a
Communion with God

Initial steps ...

I. Draw Near to God

- A. Faith
- B. Prayer
- C. Study
- D. Worship
- E. Walk

II. And He Will

- A. Receive You
- B. Hear You
- C. Speak to You
- D. Bless You
- E. Be With You

... toward a closer walk.

Children, Listen ...

1. How is it possible for sinners to be brought back into a good relationship with God?
2. Can you describe prayer in your own words?
3. Why is it important to regularly read the Bible?
4. What do we call the special time of singing, praying and hearing the Word of God together?
5. Will praying to God, reading His Word, singing to Him and being with His people help us to know God is near?

Always Near?

The Bible makes it clear that God is everywhere and at the same time we are told to draw near to Him and He will draw near to us. To begin with we can't draw near to God unless we have a mediator as a bridge between our sinful selves and the Holy God. That Mediator is Jesus. The unbeliever must first repent and believe in the Lord Jesus before he can even pretend to draw near to God. For believers drawing near to God is a deliberate act of seeking communion with God through the means of grace He has given to those who belong to Him through Jesus. This is an urgent call to backsliders to flee back to the Lord. Perhaps some of us have been carelessly neglecting the things God has provided for regular fellowship with him. In that case we are called to re-kindle devotion in order to draw near to the God where we have been deficient. For all believers this text is a great reminder to maintain a lively passion for sweet communion with God through the regular disciplines of grace. The deeper we go in our faith, prayer, and study and worship the closer our walk with our God and the assurance of His near presence will be.