NORTH WAY
notes outline

RESIST: WEEK 8

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.'"
James 4:7-9

"'Yet even now,' declares the Lord , 'return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.' Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster."
Joel 2:12-13

"For godly grief (sorrow) produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death."
2 Corinthians 7:10

When James connects with the language of the prophets, he is:

1. Reminding us that we can mourn now and repent or mourn later and regret not mourning now.
2. Urging us to see our sin as a breach with our loving and holy heavenly father.
3. Inviting us to stop hiding and tolerating our sin, and instead, bring our sin into the light and experience the cleansing work of the Spirit.

Resisting the Devil involves confessing my sin so that I stop hiding it (and in turn tolerating it).

NOTES:

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"This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."
1 John 1:5-10

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."
James 5:16

Reflection on confession:

- Confession helps us see the truth.
- Confession reminds us that we are not alone.
- Confession invites help in resisting temptation.

"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."
Proverbs 28:13

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