

The Heart of Genuine Conversion

Ten Commands for Drawing Near to God in True Salvation **James 4:7-10** Chris Mueller 2-13-22

Introduction:

John 15:16 You did not choose Me but I chose you

God is sovereign but you are responsible

James 4:7 Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. **8** Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. **9** Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. **10** Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

Acts 20:21 solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

#1 Like D _____ faith **7-8a** Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

1st Come under God's _____ **7a** Submit therefore to God

Matthew 16:24 If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

Matthew 10:39 He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it

2nd Choose _____ **7b** Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

John 8:44 who does not belong to Christ is a child of the devil,

1 John 3:8 the one who practices sin, is of the devil.

3rd Desire _____ **8a** Draw near to God and He will draw near to you

John 17:3 This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

#2 Like D _____ repentance **8b-9** Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom.

Acts 26:20 kept declaring ... that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.

2 Timothy 2:25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,

2 Corinthians 7:10 For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, ...

11 For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong!

1st Cleaning up your _____ outwardly **8b** Cleanse your hands, you sinners

2nd Loyal internal singlemindedness 8c and purify your hearts, you double-minded

Jeremiah 4:14 Wash your heart from evil, O Jerusalem that you may be saved.

George Whitefield Every man by his own natural will hates God. But when he is turned to the Lord by repentance, then his will is changed; his conscience becomes quickened; his hard heart is melted, and his unruly affections are crucified. Through repentance, his entire soul is transformed, he will have new inclinations, new desires, and new habits.

Matthew 6:24 no one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other

Matthew 12:30 he who is not with Me is against Me;

3rd _____ your sin 9 Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom.

Psalms 51:17 A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

#3 Like D _____ obedience 10 Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you

Mark 8:35 For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

1st Dependent service 10a Humble yourselves

Galatians 6:3 For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

CT Studd Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

2nd Intimate submission 10b in the presence of the Lord,

3rd Trusting future 10c and He will exalt you.

Luke 15:18 'I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.

TAKE HOME:

A. Be motivated to turn to Christ by your horrific _____ and shortcomings

Matthew 16:24–25 If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it—

B. Be motivated to turn to Christ by the _____ of being in Christ

Matthew 11:28–29 Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Revelation 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say,

'Come.' And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

C. Be motivated to live for Christ by God's abundant grace toward the _____

Luke 15:22 the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet; 23 and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; 24 for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.' And they began to celebrate.

Questions for Growth in Christ

1. Why are many Christians uncomfortable with the terms of verses 7-10 describing the call to salvation?
2. How do sound doctrine believers need to think differently about conversion?
3. How do born again Christians need to think differently about calling people to turn to Christ from these verses?
4. God is sovereign in salvation, but what exactly are we calling non-Christians to do when we invite them to turn to Christ?
5. What area exposed in today's passage is an area you personally need to work on?
6. What steps will you take this week to witness to others to be converted to Christ?
7. Who will hold you accountable to live more like this passage and to speak to the lost according to this passage?

