



How to Draw Near to Your Trainer (Part 1) — SUBMIT

ICE BREAKERS:

- Name a few people who have taught you a skill.
- What skill did you learn?
- Who was your favorite teacher in school?

Pastor Bill shares: My favorite teacher growing up was Mrs. Stallman. She wasn't my favorite because of what I learned from her, but rather for who she was! She took time to build a relationship with me!

- So how important is a trainer to a boxer?
- How important is it that the boxer trusts, believes in, and listens to the trainer?
- How important is it for there to be a close relationship between the two?

READ & EXAMINE:

James 4:7-10.

(The first time through, read it normally. Read it again a second time, but this time substitute the word "trainer" wherever you see the word "God" or "Lord").

- According to James, how do we draw near to God our trainer?

- Name the ways listed in vs.7-10.

Read vs. 7 again.

- What does it mean to submit?
- Name some biblical characters who submitted to God.

Read 2 Chronicles 30:1-9.

Note: Hezekiah was a great king dedicated to God and the spiritual progress of his people. He even sent letters out urging people to submit to God.

Read 2 Chronicles 30:8 again.

- What keeps us from submission?
- Share a time when you were stiff-necked/stubborn with God. Why do we get stubborn?
- Would someone be so brave as to share something with the group that God is dealing with you to submit to him?
- When was the last time you prayed David's prayer?

Read Psalm 139:23-24.

- Isn't this about submission..."search my heart"?

Let's close, allowing God to search our hearts and reveal anything that does not look like Jesus. Then submit it!