

# CLOSER *message notes*

**Draw Near for Closeness**  
Sunday, February 14 | Tommy Duke  
First Baptist Church of Garden City

## **THREE OBSTACLES TO STAYING CLOSE TO GOD:**

- MY \_\_\_\_\_.
- MY FLAWED \_\_\_\_\_.
- MY \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Therefore submit 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. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.” – James 4:7-10*

## **CLOSENESS TO GOD ENABLES ME TO:**

- 1) SEE THE WORLD MORE \_\_\_\_\_.

*“...the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints...” – Ephesians 1:18*

*“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” – Ephesians 2:10*

**2) MAKE CHOICES MORE \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“If you love Me, keep My commandments.” – John 14:15*

*“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.” – John 15:9-10*

**3) EXPERIENCE MORE OF \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.” – Jeremiah 29:12-13*

*“ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.” – John 15:7*

*“Since this new way gives us such confidence, we can be very bold.” – 2 Corinthians 3:12 (NLT)*

**MY KEY TO ONGOING CLOSENESS TO THE LORD:**

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(Jesus) *“For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” – Luke 14:11*

Memory Verse:

*“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.” – James 4:8*

**MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO:**

- Memorize James 4:8.
- Commit to strengthening my relationship with God through prayer.
- Ask God to give me eyes to see people as He sees them.
- Humbly submit to God’s instructions.

JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY:

*Brand-New Teaching Series Begins - **EMOTIONS***