Daily Devotion For March 8, 2023

"Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you." James 4:8

In my message from the book of James on Sunday, I shared the above scripture passage, "Draw near to God and he will draw near to you

God never forces himself upon us. He is always there for us but leaves the **initiative** up to us. In Revelation 3:20, Jesus said "Behold, I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears my voice and opens the door I will come into him and sup with him and he with me." Jesus is a gentlemen and does not barge into our lives. The door of our Lord's heart is always open to us. His love is always for us. His presence is always available to us.

The moment that we take the **initiative** He is right there for us to enjoy fellowship with. Each Sunday during our worship service I mention that we welcome our Lord into our presence.

To draw near to God is to simply open our hearts to what is always available. It's not that God ever withholds his presence from us. It's that he never forces us to abide in him. If we want to go our own way, he willingly and patiently waits for us. And the moment that we turn our hearts back to him, he is there to fill us with His presence.

Someone once said, "If you don't feel close to God, guess who moved?"

**Thought For Today:** How close are you to God today? Take time today to open your heart, draw near to God, and experience the joy of his presence.

**Today's Prayer Focus:** Thank God that he is always near and only a prayer away. Continued prayers for the Gota family, and others who are in need of God's strengthening and healing touch. Deo Volente.