

5. Where is there internal conflict in your life? (Decisions, Faith, Belief) Where is there external conflict in your life? (Home, School, Work, Relationship, Social Issues)?

6. Read and reflect on James 4:6-10. How can reading God's word help you to be less "double-minded"?

7. As you take steps to embrace the authority of God and Scripture and consider last week's message about Grace and Truth, what thoughts or actions come to mind as you consider how you live that out in real life?

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## SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

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### **Christian Sexuality: Jesus, Sex & Gender**

Authority of God & Scripture  
Genesis 1, James 4, Matthew 11  
October 16/17, 2021

As humans we do not particularly like being told what to do. In fact, many of us hear the word authority and it causes a \_\_\_\_\_ response, that is, a subconscious, emotional, neurological response to something we feel uncomfortable with or unsure of.

What if we could \_\_\_\_\_ and renew our understanding of how we relate to God and scripture as the authority and spoken authority in our lives?

The authority of God and scripture in our lives is not an unnecessary restriction or irrelevant suggestion, but rather a path to the \_\_\_\_\_ and life that God has promised and designed for us.

### **How to embrace the authority of God and Scripture in real life**

1. Genesis 1: A God who \_\_\_\_\_.

In creation God \_\_\_\_\_ order out of chaos.

Adam and Eve invite chaos to return when they decide to go their \_\_\_\_\_ way.

When we decide to do what we think is best for us, we invite \_\_\_\_\_ into our lives and into the world around us.

2. James 4: A God who \_\_\_\_\_.

Knowing God's character, and trusting God's purpose helps us to submit ourselves to him to his word. God's purpose is to sanctify and strengthen us. He wants make us better. He wants us to \_\_\_\_\_.

There is a \_\_\_\_\_ between our spiritual life and human nature.

The purpose of God's word is draw us closer to him and to his \_\_\_\_\_.

We are going to read things in the scripture that oppose certain types of thinking and certain behaviors in our lives. God's \_\_\_\_\_ to these things is his grace.

3. Matthew 11: A God who \_\_\_\_\_

In our lives, Jesus is bringing order out of \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus proves his goodness and love for us by giving up his \_\_\_\_\_. Then by God's great grace and mercy, he invites us to have his spirit dwell within us.

Taking on the yoke of Jesus is an invitation to live \_\_\_\_\_, and lightly in step with our creator.

"Who we are is a product of our faith and time spent in relationship to him."

- Nick Perrin, President of Trinity International University

### Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. What are the authorities in your life? Who or what do you follow? Who or what influences what you do?

3. As you reflect on this current season, do you find yourself moving toward or away from the authority of God and scripture in your life?