

GOD'S BLANK CHECK PROMISE: CLOSENESS

How Close to God Do You Want to Be? *(Jas. 4:8)*

God's offer: come as close as you want

God didn't always make this offer *(Ex. 19:18-25; 20:18-21)*

Jesus opened our door of access to God *(Mt. 27:50-51; Heb. 10:19-22)*

How Do I Get Close to God?

Draw near through Christ *(Jn. 1:12; 14:6)*

To experience closeness: make the effort to draw near *(Jas. 4:8)*

The Conditions of Closeness

Drawing near requires honesty *(Ps. 145:18)*

Drawing near requires purity *(Jas. 4:8-9; 1 Jn. 1:9; Ps. 24:3-6)*

Applying the Bible to Life

- It's all too easy to take for granted our access to God. Reread the passages in Ex. 19 and 20. Take note of the careful instructions given about approaching the mountain while God is there. Does this help you value more the comfortable intimacy you have with God through Jesus?
- Can you think of a time in your life when your own hypocrisy or sin created relational distance between you and God? If that is true of you right now, what do Jas. 4:8-9 and 1 Jn. 1:9 instruct you to do?