# **OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION --** Answer these questions together:

# 1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) God is asking for our humility and our submission (v7). Why can God ask for this without being oppressive, evil, or a tyrant? (Hint: think about v.6 "he gives more grace")

b) Go also wants to exalt us (v10). What does this teach us about God?

# 2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) Where has God been humbling you lately through your sin or suffering (showing you your own inadequacy or brokenness)?

# 3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) Talk through how Jesus lived out this passage for us: Submission to God, Resisting the Devil, Drawing near to God, Rejecting double-mindedness, Becoming wretched, Humbling himself, Being exalted.

### APPLICATION

a) James 4:6-10 outlines several steps to spiritual growth in the midst of temptation. For each step below evaluate your faith by answering the question.

- 1. Submit to God: where is God asking you to trust him and/or obey him?
- 2. Resist the devil: what lie of the devil can you identify that you must resist?
- 3. Draw near to God: how are you going to seek God rather than sin?
- 4. Repent of sin: what is the truth about your sin that you should be telling yourself?
- 5. Humble yourself and trust God to exalt you: in what ways can you see the Lord exalting you as you trust and obey him? (Or: where are you experiencing his grace?)

### FIGHTER VERSES: James 3:13-18.

### PRAYER

- Praise God for his never ending supply of grace.
- Confess ways that you have listened to the devil's lies and sought things other than God.
- Thank Jesus for his humility and submission and wretchedness on the cross for us.
- Ask God to help you to keep going lower so that you can keep going higher.