Read: James 4:4-8 Questions:

- 1. If one is seeking friendship with the world, what is its results with God?
- 2. What does God oppose verse what God gives grace to?
- 3. In verses 7,8, what important thing can you do to live in freedom with God and from the devil?

I have found through the years that verse 7 and the first part of 8 is an important key to living in freedom from sin. Memorize verse 7 and put it into practice by saying it aloud when you are tempted to do something outside of God's will for You. Try it, and you will experience the joy of freedom in God.

Prayer: Mighty God, I ask that You would help me to experience the joy in seeing this word (vs.7) come true in my life on a regular basis. May my life reflect more and more of a life of freedom from sin. In Jesus Name. Amen

May God be with you today my friend and rest on his unchanging love and grace for you. See you Sunday!

[Sermon Note Answers: physical, spiritual, God, Satan, desire, squeeze, unbeliever, focus, believer, focus, about, sin, forgiveness, thank, sin, forgive]

Sermon Notes March 26, 2017 -- Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 Behind the Curtain: Squeezing God Out

The curtain represents the veil between the ______ realm and the ______ realm.

Who's getting squeezed out of my life more?

Satan's chief _____ is to _____ God completely out of our lives.

- For the _____, Satan wins when we don't _____ on God.
- And for the _____, Satan wins when we _____ on anything but the God of the Bible.

Two ways Satan goes about squeezing God out of our lives.

- 1. Keeping information _____ God's love from us.
- 2. Minimizing how _____ and _____ impact our lives with God.

To keep God from being squeezed out this week:

- 1. Acknowledge and _____ God for something at least three times each day.
- 2. Don't brush away _____, but seek forgiveness from God and be quick to ______ others when they hurt you.

Monday Meditation

Read: 2 Timothy 2:22-26 Questions:

- 1. What are we asked to flee from & pursue?
- 2. Repentance leads to what?
- 3. What is something you do which leans more toward the devils will than God's will?

Prayer: Lord, forgive me when I stray from Your will and draw me close to Your side today. In Jesus name. Amen

Tuesday Meditation

Read: Luke 9:23-26 Ouestions:

- 1. What does it mean
 - 1. What does it mean to you to daily deny yourself and pick up your cross?
 - 2. If you gain the whole world, what is it that Jesus says you will lose?
 - 3. In verse 20, what one thing can you do today to live your life with joy in Jesus before others?

This is one of the hard verses of scripture which helps us to think soberly of our lives.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, help me to live my life with joy in you and in service of others today In Jesus name. Amen

Wednesday Meditation

Read: Ephesians 4:22-24 Questions:

- 1. In what ways have you put off the old self since you have become serious with God?
- 2. In what area of your life are you, with God's help becoming more like God?

Understand that God is wanting you to be set free from your old self and live into the new self in Jesus.

Prayer: Lord, I give you permission today to continue to work in me to become more like Jesus Your Son. In Jesus Name. Amen.

Thursday Meditation

Read: 1 Corinthians 10:13-14 Questions:

- 1. One of the most freeing ideas to understand is that all temptation is what?
- 2. What is God and what will God not do and then do?

God will always provide a way for us to move away from temptation. All we need to do is listen & obey.

Prayer: Protect me Holy Spirit from the temptations I face today. Help me to hear and obey Your still small voice. In His Name. Amen.