LORD, **CHANGE** S MY STUBB ATTITUDE 4 BEFORE W HOUS CYNICAL IT'S TOO LATE JAMES MACDONALD WITH BARB PEIL

Viewer Guides with Answers

CONNECT

When you get out of bed in the morning, what's your attitude? Is it a good indicator of your attitude for the day? Of your outlook on life? Find one or two more people in your group with a morning attitude like yours. Commit to pray for one another throughout this study.

START

Ask the following questions of the entire group.

- 1. Turn to the contents page. You'll see five negative attitudes and five positive attitudes that outline this 10-week study. Which one negative attitude and one positive attitude do you most want to (or need to) study? Why?
- 2. Do you think most people are aware of their attitudes or think about them often? How do you think people develop positive or negative attitudes?
- 3. Do you think it's easy or difficult to change an attitude?

WA	ATCH	
	The focus of murmuring is on the meaningless words that flow from my lips that reflect	
	the <u>unbelief</u> that's in my heart.	
	Those who choose murmuring as a lifestyle will spend their lifetime in the <u>wilderness</u>	
We _	choose our attitudes.	
	Attitudes are <u>patterns</u> of thinking.	
	Attitudes are <u>patterns</u> of thinking formed over a long period of <u>time</u> .	
Com	plaining is <u>sin</u> .	
	The word <i>sin</i> means missing the mark, failing in regard to God's holy <u>standard</u> and just <u>demands</u> .	
	Complaining is to express <u>dissatisfaction</u> with a circumstance that is not wrong and I am doing nothing myself to <u>correct</u> .	
	God makes no distinction between your words and your thoughts. They are equally audible to Him.	

We have to focus the teaching on complaining to the exact subject matter that's being

God hears our complaining.

<u>forbidden</u>.

REPLACE A COMPLAINING ATTITUDE ...

	God is displeased when you complain about your <u>lot</u> in life—the circumstances that are unique to you.
	Whatever God has allowed, that's the thing He wants to grow your <u>faith</u> through.
God	hates our complaining.
God	<u>judges</u> our complaining.
	Am I a <u>complainer</u> ?
	Am I reaping the <u>consequences</u> of complaining in my relationship with God?
	Am I willing to <u>repent</u> ?

DISCUSS

- 1. How did James MacDonald define attitude? Why is it important to realize that we choose our attitudes?
- 2. Complaining is a good place to start this study because we all complain. What do you complain about most often? Why is it so easy to complain? What does complaining reveal about our hearts?
- 3. Why is it important to understand that God hears, hates, and judges our complaining? Why does He respond in those ways? Which response did you most need to hear today?
- 4. The wilderness will be a common theme throughout this study. How would you summarize what James said about the wilderness?
- 5. What did you learn from the biblical examples used in the video teaching? How can you apply those lessons to your life today?
- 6. Have you ever considered complaining to be sinful? How does that change your perspective? What complaining attitude can you repent of?
- 7. What will you do to guard yourself from complaining this week? Whenever you catch yourself being tempted to complain, deliberately choose to stop yourself and ask the Lord to change your attitude.

PREPARE

After each week's group session you'll complete five days of personal study that will help you apply biblical truths about the attitude. Group sessions 2–10 will begin with a brief time of discussion to review ways the Lord has worked in your life during the week. Come prepared to interact with your partner(s) and with the group each week.

REVIEW

If you connected with partner(s) in session 1, get together with them for your time of review. Otherwise, you may choose to review each week's personal study in the larger group before starting this session's content.

Share ways this week's personal study has affected your complaining. When have you noticed that you complain? Give a specific example of a way you've asked the Lord to change your attitude and how you've tried to change your complaining attitude this week.

START

- 1. What are you most thankful for? Why?
- 2. In what areas of your life or for what specific things have you grown more thankful over time? Is there something in your life that you took for granted at one point but are now thankful for? What changed your perspective?
- 3. In general, would you say you're a thankful person? Why or why not?

WATCH Attitude is __everything__. Everyone needs the __Lord__. Only a few thank Him __personally__. They had to ask, they had to go in faith, and then the __miracle__ happened. Just because your complaining is understandable doesn't mean it's __excusable__. I can actually choose to be a different person by __choosing__ a thankful attitude. Only a few experience Him __powerfully__. Thankfulness leads to greater __faith__. The cascade of ungodliness flows from __ungratefulness__. The walk of faith begins with a __thankfulness__. __Gratitude__ is the attitude that sets the altitude for living. Gratitude is to show that a kindness received is __valued__.

Thankfulness is a <u>decision</u>.

... WITH THANKFULNESS

Thankfulness is a decision based on	reality	
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Thankfulness is a <u>life</u> - <u>changing</u> decision.

Am I a <u>thankful</u> person?
Am I seeing the <u>blessing</u> of thankfulness in my life?
Am I choosing thankfulness over complaining moment by moment

- 1. What did James MacDonald mean when he said attitude is everything? Do you agree? Why or why not?
- 2. In general, why should Christians be thankful? What specific things are you thankful for as a Christian?
- 3. How does thankfulness lead to greater faith?
- 4. In what ways have you experienced the relationship between faith in God and an attitude of thankfulness? How does thankfulness affect your relationships with other people?
- 5. In what ways is a thankful attitude a blessing in and of itself?
- 6. What did James mean when he said ungodliness flows from ungratefulness? How has your life been affected by the cycle of ungratefulness and ungodliness?
- 7. What Scripture or biblical example in the video most effectively helped you recognize the contrast between complaining and thankfulness? How did it provide insight into the value of thankfulness?
- 8. How can an attitude of thankfulness be applied to specific areas of complaint you've identified over the past week?
- 9. Is there anyone to whom you need to express thankfulness this week? What specific things will you do this week to grow in an attitude of thankfulness?

REVIEW

With your partner(s) or group, share ways you've grown in your ability to replace complaining with thankfulness. When, where, or about what do you still struggle with complaining? Give an example of a way you've asked the Lord to change your attitude and how you've tried to be intentionally thankful this past week.

START

- 1. Covet isn't a word we use often today, if at all, but it's no less a sin than in biblical times. How would you define *covetousness?*
- 2. Would you say our culture encourages or discourages covetousness? Explain your answer.
- 3. In general, would you say you're a covetous person? Why or why not?

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Covetousness is at the source of materialism .

1. Covetousness becomes sin when we yield .

ACT 1: Yielding to Covetousness and Why God Hates It

Covetousness is wanting <u>wrong</u> things.

Covetousness is wanting <u>right</u> things but for wrong reasons.

Covetousness is wanting right things for right reasons but wanting them at the wrong $\underline{\quad \text{time}\quad}$.

2. When we dwell on desire, yielding is just a matter of time.

The longer you dwell on something, the more you'll begin to <u>convince</u> yourself that you have to have it.

3. At the root of covetousness is a rejection of God's __sufficiency_.

ACT 2: A Gift from God You Don't Want

1. Beware of begging God for <u>nonessentials</u>.

Whatever we want most of all is <u>God</u> to us.

2. In time we may hate what we had to have.

REPLACE A COVETOUS ATTITUDE ...

ACT 3: The Consequences of Covetousness

1. Enough is never <u>enough</u>.

2. Life in the wilderness	
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Am I a <u>covetous</u> person?	
Am I reaping the <u>consequences</u>	of covetousness in my relationship with God?
Am I willing to <u>repent</u> ?	

- 1. Hate is a strong word James MacDonald used to describe God's perspective on our bad attitudes. Have you ever considered that God hates certain attitudes? In what ways is it helpful to use the word hate to describe His perspective?
- 2. What's the danger of materialism in our daily lives? In our relationships with God?
- 3. James defined *covetousness* as wanting the wrong things, the right things for the wrong reasons, or the right things at the wrong time. How did these three desires help you better understand covetousness? Which of the three points was most convicting and why?
- 4. When have you dwelled on something in a way that grew into covetousness?
- 5. In the video James said covetousness becomes active sin only when we yield. What did he mean? Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
- 6. What warnings did James give about the things we want?
- 7. When have you had a negative experience with getting what you thought you had to have? What effect did it have on you, your relationships with others, or your relationship with God?
- 8. What Scripture or biblical example in the video most effectively helped you think about covetousness?
- 9. About what specific things or in what areas of your life do you already recognize a tendency to covet?
- 10. What will you do to guard yourself from coveting this week? Whenever you catch yourself being tempted to covet, make the deliberate choice to stop yourself and ask the Lord to change your attitude.

REVIEW

With your partner(s) or group, share ways this week's study has affected your awareness of a covetous attitude. Have you noticed when you're most prone to covet? If so, what do you covet, and why do you think that's a struggle for you? Give an example of a way you've asked the Lord to change your attitude and what you've done to resist covetousness this past week.

START

- 1. What would you say our culture's general attitude is toward being content with what we have? What values might influence that perspective?
- 2. Describe a time when you felt most content. Why were you so content at that time?
- 3. In general, would you say you're a contented person? Why or why not?

WATCH

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The opposite of covetousness is contentment .
     Contentment is satisfaction in God's sufficient provision; to rest in what one has
     and seek nothing more; a settled sense of adequacy; the attitude of heart that says,
    "I have <u>enough</u>."
     Desire for gain is not wrong, but it does cause many to desire wrongly.
     Godliness + <u>contentment</u> = great gain
False Equations for Happiness
     1. Godliness + prosperity = great gain
     2. Godliness + <u>poverty</u> = great gain
     3. Godliness + power = great gain
     4. Godliness + family harmony = great gain
     5. Godliness + __ministry __success = great gain
Look to eternity .
Let enough be enough.
     If you have something you can't live without, you don't own it .
     It owns <u>you</u>.
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How to Gain Contentment

1. <u>Seek</u> it.

... WITH CONTENTMENT

2. <u>Say</u> it: "I have enough."		
3. <u>Settle</u> it.		
It's not wrong to have things. It's wrong when things have <u>you</u> .		
Financial Fences		
1. Limit <u>spending</u> .		
2. Limit <u>lifestyle</u> .		
3. Limit <u>income</u> .		
4. Give <u>more</u> every year.		
5. Give in ways that <u>no</u> <u>one</u> will know anything about.		
Learn by <u>example</u> .		
Money allows you to go places and do things and experience pressures to <u>sin</u> that someone in poverty can never really understand.		
Am I <u>contented</u> person?		
Am I seeing the <u>blessings</u> of contentment in my life?		
Am I choosing contentment over covetousness moment by moment?		

- 1. Honestly, how often do you think about the blessings God has provided in your life? What things first come to mind as God's provision in your life? What things do you most easily take for granted?
- 2. How is James MacDonald's clarification helpful that the desire for personal gain isn't wrong? Is it surprising to anyone? If so, why? How would you explain to someone the formula "Godliness + contentment = great gain."
- 4. Which of the five faulty equations for happiness have you encountered most often in our culture? In popular Christian thinking? In your own life? What makes each of those formulas faulty?
- 5. James also mentioned five financial fences to put up in order to gain contentment. What did he mean by financial fences, and why are they important in general? Which one of the five fences was especially helpful to you personally? Why?
- 6. What Scripture or biblical example in the video most effectively helped you think about covetousness and thankfulness? How did it provide insight into the value of thankfulness?
- 7. What specific things will you do this week to strengthen an attitude of contentment?

REVIEW

With your partner(s) or group, share ways you've grown in your ability to replace covetousness with contentment. When, where, or about what do you still struggle with being covetous? Give an example of a way you've asked the Lord to change your attitude and how you've made an intentional decision to be content this past week.

START

- 1. What would you say the difference is between recognizing that something could be better—or is actually wrong—and being critical?
- 2. Would you say criticism is rebuked, discouraged, encouraged, or celebrated in our culture? On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being never and 10 being constantly, how often do you see criticism in the media and on social media? What might be the effect on our culture from our exposure to critical attitudes?
- 3. How can criticism affect a person's day or even his or her life (either being critical or being criticized)?
- 4. In general, would you consider yourself to be a critical person? Why or why not?

WATCH
A lot of people who have a critical spirit have one because in their perception someone has something they believe they <u>deserve</u> .
Criticism is to dwell on the perceived <u>faults</u> of another with no view to their good.
Criticism is <u>wrong</u> .
Choose to sin; choose to <u>suffer</u> .
Criticism is wrong for your <u>fellowship</u> with God.
Criticism is wrong for our relationship with <u>others</u> .
Criticism is wrong for us <u>personally</u> .
Criticism is <u>petty</u> .
The Real Issue
1. <u>Hurt</u>
2. <u>Unforgiveness</u>
3. Fnvv , jealousy, resentment

REPLACE A CRITICAL ATTITUDE ...

Criticism is self- <u>exalting</u> .
Criticism is <u>painful</u> .
Criticism is often <u>inadvertent</u> .
If the flow into your life and out of your life becomes polluted by a critical spirit, everything is <u>wrong</u> until that's right.
Affirmations
1. I will not <u>excuse</u> or <u>justify</u> critical statements.
2. I'm going to look for the <u>good</u> in every situation.
3. I'm going to <u>accept</u> what I can't change.

DISCUSS

4. I will use my speech for the good of others .

5. I will seek God's help for <u>victory</u>.

- 1. James MacDonald described criticism as being wrong in five ways. While some may seem obvious, how is it helpful to specifically call attention to each way criticism is hurtful?
- 2. What did James say happens when we choose to sin? How have you seen that to be true of someone with a critical attitude?
- 3. What three issues were identified as the real problems underneath a critical attitude? Which of those issues have you experienced to be true in your own heart? In the lives of people around you?
- 4. Why is it important to recognize that our own attitudes and the attitudes of others are rooted in deeper issues?
- 5. What Scripture or biblical example in the video most effectively helped you think about a critical attitude? How was it helpful?
- 6. Which of the five affirmations most effectively helped you identify ways you can begin to replace a critical attitude? Why?
- 7. About what specific things or in what areas of your life do you already recognize a tendency to criticize?
- 8. What will you do to guard yourself from being critical this week? Whenever you catch yourself being tempted to criticize, deliberately choose to stop yourself and ask the Lord to change your attitude.

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REVIEW

With your partner(s) or group, share ways this week's study has affected your awareness of a critical attitude. Have you noticed when you're most prone to be critical? Give an example of a way you've asked the Lord to change your attitude and what you've done to resist criticism this past week.

START

- 1. How does our society define and portray love? What are some examples of an ideal love in our culture? Why might people view love that way?
- 2. How can love, the lack of love, or a misunderstanding of love affect a person's life?
- 3. In general, would you say you're a loving person? Why or why not?

WATCH		
All truth and no love is <u>brutality</u> .		
Agape views love as a decision, as a <u>choice</u> , as an act of my will.		
<u></u>		
Absolute truth in the hands of absolute sinners can be absolutely <u>brutal</u> .		
<u> </u>		
You Know You're All Truth		
1. If you deal with passive resistance, not people <u>refusing</u> you to your face.		
1. If you dear with passive resistance, not people <u>relasting</u> you to your face.		
2. If people say you don't <u>listen</u> .		
2. II people say you doll t <u>listell</u> .		
2. If you pride yourself on I'		
3. If you pride yourself on <u>realism</u> .		
4. If people who disagree with you have to <u>separate</u> from you.		
5. If you're <u>arguing</u> with me while I'm preaching.		
All love and no truth is <u>hypocrisy</u> .		
Love that holds to the truth is <u>biblical</u> love.		
On the majors, <u>action</u> .		
7 ml ' 36 ' 3		
Is This a Major?		
1. Is it critical <u>path</u> ?		
2. Is it a chronic <u>problem</u> ?		
3. Is it close <u>proximity</u> ?		

Most thing	gs are not <u>majors</u>
On the minors,	acceptance .
In all things,	love .

- 1. Before watching the video session, would you have thought of love as the opposite of criticism? What words would you have first thought of as the opposite of criticism?
- 2. James McDonald said truth without love is brutality. What was your initial response to that statement? After hearing his explanation, do you consider *brutality* an appropriate word choice? Why or why not?
- 3. Which of the five indicators showing that you're all truth and no love was most convicting? Why?
- 4. Which example of being all truth and no love would you say is most common in our society? In your own relationships (no names)?
- 5. How would you explain the statement "All love and no truth is hypocrisy"?
- 6. There are times when something is 100 percent true but hurtful in the situation or in its lack of tactfulness. How have you hurt somebody or been hurt by somebody when truth without love was expressed? What was the result of that experience?
- 7. In what ways are the three questions helpful in distinguishing between a major and a minor point? Do you tend to major on minors and avoid dealing with majors? How does this tendency relate to love?
- 8. What are some examples of selfless, me-before-you agape love?
- 9. From whom have you experienced true (*agape*) love? What effect does this kind of biblical love have on you as the giver of love? On others as the recipients of love? On those who witness that kind of love?
- 10. What Scripture or biblical example in the video most effectively helped you think about criticism and love? How did it provide insight into the value of love?
- 11. What specific things will you do this week to intentionally show love, especially to people of whom you've been critical?

REVIEW

With your partner(s) or group, share ways you've grown in your ability to replace criticism with love. When, where, or about what do you still struggle with being critical? Give an example of a way you've asked the Lord to change your attitude and how you've made an intentional decision to be loving this past week.

START

- 1. Does our society view doubt as positive, negative, or neutral? Explain your answer. What might contribute to this cultural perspective?
- 2. In general, would you say you're a doubtful person? If so, in what particular areas are you more prone to doubt?

WATCH

Doubt is the absence of <u>faith</u> .
Doubt is a lack of confidence or assurance that God will keep His <u>promises</u> .
God has promised to <u>provide</u> for me (see Phil. 4:19).
God has promised to <u>protect</u> me (see Isa. 54:17).
God has promised to <u>prosper</u> me (see Ps. 84:11).
God places regular <u>tests</u> of faith in front of His children.
Faith is a <u>choice</u> .
Faith is not a part of the Christian life. It's the <u>whole</u> thing.
The circumstances of life will shrink or <u>stretch</u> your faith.
Doubt sees the obstacles. Faith sees the <u>opportunities</u> .
Disguises for Doubt
1. People call their doubt <u>fear</u> : "God won't protect me."
2. People call their doubt <u>anger</u> : "God won't solve my problem for me."
3. People <u>withdraw</u> : "God won't answer my questions."
4. People get <u>bitter</u> : "God won't heal my hurt."
5. People say, "I just need the facts; I'm just a <u>realist</u> ."

REPLACE A DOUBTING ATTITUDE ...

We're all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as unsolvableproblems
When surrounded by <u>doubters</u> , doubting comes easily.
Why Doubting Is Easy
1. It is <u>contagious</u> .
2. It is <u>passive</u> .
3. It satisfies our tendency toward self- <u>protection</u> .
4. Doubters are easy to find. Friends of <u>faith</u> are rare and have to be sought out.
It's a short journey from doubt to <u>despair</u> .
Desperate plans come from despairing hearts.
Am I a <u>doubting</u> person?
Am I reaping the <u>consequences</u> of doubt in my relationship with God?
Am I willing to repent ?

- 1. Had you ever considered doubt as a lack of confidence in God's ability or willingness to keep His promises? How does doubt affect your perspective on a relationship with God?
- 2. Which of the promises mentioned in this video are you most grateful for? Which promises are you most prone to doubt, even if you wouldn't previously say so openly or hadn't previously recognized them as indicating a doubtful attitude toward God?
- 3. Which one of the five disguises for doubt was most surprising? Which do you most often hide behind and why? How has doubt affected your life in the past?
- 4. Why is doubt so easy and so common? How can doubt hurt your witness as a Christian?
- 5. What Scripture or biblical example in the video most effectively helped you think about doubt? What other Scriptures strengthen you when doubts arise?
- 6. What will you do to guard yourself from doubtfulness this week? Whenever you catch yourself being tempted to doubt, deliberately choose to stop yourself and ask the Lord to change your attitude.

REVIEW

With your partner(s) or group, share ways this week's study has affected your awareness of doubtfulness. Have you noticed when you're most prone to doubt? Why do you think that's an area of vulnerability? Give an example of a way you've asked the Lord to change your attitude and how you've tried to guard against doubtfulness this week.

START

- 1. What's usually meant in our culture when someone says to have faith or to believe? In whom or in what does our culture encourage people to have faith in or believe? Can that kind of attitude be helpful? Can it be hurtful? Explain.
- 2. Would you say spiritual faith is considered good, bad, or neutral in our society? Explain a possible reason for that cultural perspective.
- 3. In general, would you say you're a person of faith? Why or why not?

WATCH

What your temperature is to your health, your faith is to your soul .

Γhe _.	prescription for faith
	Faith is active <u>confidence</u> in God.
	Faith is <u>substance</u> .
	Faith is <u>evidence</u> .
	Faith is—
	• <u>believing</u> the Word of God
	• and <u>acting</u> upon it,
	• no matter how I <u>feel</u> ,
	• because God promises a good <u>result</u> .
Γhe <u>.</u>	prominence of faith
	Faith is not a <u>part</u> of the Christian life.
	Faith is the <u>whole</u> thing.
	The <u>power</u> of faith

<u>Cultivate</u> your faith.		
<u>Witness</u> your faith.		
<u>Corner</u> your faith.		
Ask in faith and believe that you have	received	it.

- 1. Have you ever thought that your faith's relationship to your soul is similar to your temperature's relationship to your health? Explain how this comparison can be helpful.
- 2. How often do you think about your soul? How can being mindful of your soul affect your daily decisions and attitudes? How can it affect the way you see other people?
- 3. Following the thermometer illustration, James MacDonald described faith as confidence, substance, and evidence. Would our culture define *faith* in those terms? Would you have defined *faith* in those terms before watching this video? Explain how each point is consistent with or differs from common perspectives on faith.
- 4. How can there be evidence for something we can't see? Explain your answer with nonspiritual examples that any person would understand and agree to be true.
- 5. James also provided a definition of *faith*, explaining belief, actions, feelings, and the promised result. In what ways do you struggle with doubt in any of these areas?
- 6. Do you believe it's OK to ask God for certain things? Why or why not? Share examples of answered prayers that strengthened your faith.
- 7. What Scripture or biblical example in the video most effectively helped you think about doubt and faith? How did it provide insight into the value of faith? What other Scriptures do you depend on to strengthen your faith?
- 8. How important is community in developing your faith? Explain your answer. What specific things will you do this week to be intentional about growing in faith?

REVIEW

With your partner(s) or group, share ways you've grown in your ability to replace doubt with faith. When, where, or about what do you still struggle with doubt? Give an example of a way you've asked the Lord to change your attitude and how you've been intentional in practicing faith this past week.

START

- 1. Name some famous rebels in history, classic literature, or popular media. What made them rebels?
- 2. Do you think being a rebel has a positive, negative, or neutral connotation in our society? Can you identify any specific examples? Why do you think rebels are viewed that way?
- 3. Have you ever wanted to be considered a rebel? Why or why not?
- 4. In general, would you say you're a rebellious person? Why or why not?

WATCH Rebellion is __serious__. Rebellion exists in __every__human heart. Rebellion is knowing but not __doing__. Rebellion has many sources. 1. __Jealousy___ Rebellion is most often about __control__. 2. __Delusions___ 3. __Ungratefulness___ 4. __Stubbornness___ 5. __Disappointment___

6. Distrust

REPLACE A REBELLIOUS ATTITUDE ...

Rebellion has many <u>consequences</u>.

Leadership withdrawal
 Innocence defiled.
 Guilty condemned.

Rebellion is ultimately against God .

4. <u>Infection</u> spread

DISCUSS

- 1. How and when is rebellion harmful? Is there a time when you think rebellion is good? If so, what's the dividing line between the two?
- 2. Had you ever considered rebellion as passivity—as knowing but not doing? In what ways is rebellious passivity equally sinful as rebellious activity?
- 3. When has your desire for control of a situation or relationship led to rebelliousness? What consequences did your rebellion have in those instances?
- 4. When have you rebelled against God? What consequences did your rebellion have in those instances? How did God reveal and convict you of your rebellious attitude?
- 5. James MacDonald mentioned six sources of rebellion. Which source of rebellion do you see most often?
- 6. How do these sources help you understand your own attitudes? How do they help you understand the behavior of other people in your life?
- 7. What Scripture or biblical example in the video most effectively helped you think about rebellion? How did it provide insight into the danger of a rebellious attitude? What other Scriptures help you understand the implications of rebelliousness?
- 8. About what specific things or in what areas of your life do you already recognize a tendency to rebel?
- 9. What will you do to guard yourself from rebelliousness this week? Whenever you catch yourself being tempted to rebel, deliberately choose to stop yourself and ask the Lord to change your attitude.

Replace a Rebellious Attitude ... 165

REVIEW

With your partner(s) or group, share ways this week's study has affected your awareness of a rebellious attitude. Give an example of a way you've asked the Lord to change your attitude and how you've guarded yourself against rebellion this week.

Be sure to answer the following three questions with your partners as you start session 10 and/or later as a group when you conclude the session together. It's important to reflect on everything you've learned, ways you've grown, and ways you need ongoing encouragement, prayer, and accountability in order to change your attitudes.

- 1. What has been the most helpful truth you've learned during this 10-week study?
- 2. What has been the most significant change in your attitudes during this study?
- 3. In what area is God continuing to work in your life?

START

- 1. What do you think of when you hear the word submission?
- 2. How does our culture view submission? Why do you think it's viewed that way?
- 3. In general, would you say you're submissive person? Why or why not?

WATCH

You can't abandon a subject of Scripture simply because it's been <u>abused</u> by others.

Submission is <u>duty</u> to God.

Submission is what respectful people offer in recognition that God has established
<u>authority</u> .
Submission is <u>protection</u> by God.
When working properly, God's authority structure administers <u>justice</u> .

Submit to the established authorities. Leave the results with God.
Submission has <u>limits</u> under God.
Submission is voluntary.

... WITH SUBMISSION

Submission Limits

1. It depends on the <u>source</u> .
2. It depends on the <u>severity</u> .
3. It depends on the <u>frequency</u> .
Submission is not license for self- <u>destruction</u> .

Two Extremes

- 1. Using abuse as an excuse to <u>bail</u> on your responsibility
- 2. Using the biblical teaching on submission as an excuse to <u>stay</u> when it's destructive to you

When the authority structure in the home fails, go to the authority structure in the church if it's not a criminal matter.

Submission is favor from God.

Submission is intimacy with God.

DISCUSS

- 1. Why should people feel an urgency about changing an attitude of rebelliousness?
- 2. James MacDonald identified several positive traits of biblical submission. How does each trait help you understand submission? Which was the most encouraging and why?
- 3. James suggested three limits to distinguish between healthy and unhealthy submission. How does each limit help you understand a biblical view of submission?
- 4. How are submitting to God and submitting to people related? Why is this connection important to keep in mind?
- 5. What Scripture or biblical example in the video most effectively helped you think about rebelliousness and submission? How did it provide insight into the value of submission? What other Scriptures have helped you understand biblical submission?
- 6. How does submission relate to the other desirable attitudes we've studied?

CONCLUDE

If you didn't answer the three review questions at the beginning of this session related to this 10-week study of Lord, Change My Attitude, be sure to share your responses with the group.