

Core Commitments – Living the Word

James 1:22 (HCSB) But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”

Text: James 1:19-25

South Orlando Baptist Church

Topics: Absorbing Scripture, Application

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Supplemental Text: See below:

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As we live out the Word of God in our daily lives...

- 1) Put aside all that remains of the _____ (19-21a)
 - A. We are to handle problems apart from the use of anger.
 - B. We are “to rid ourselves of all moral filth and evil”
 - C. See also - Romans 8:13; Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:8-11.

- 2) Provide a _____ heart for God's word. (21b)
 - A. We are to humbly receive the implanted word.
 - B. In verse 18, God calls Christians the “firstfruits” of His creatures. In the Old Testament, the firstfruits were the first and best harvested crops that were given up as an offering to God. This offering would expect God’s blessing of a full and bountiful crop later in the season. Christians are God’s first and best crop of a harvest that is coming later - the new creation in heaven and on earth. Continuing with the farming analogies, James tells us in verse 21b that God’s word has been “implanted” in us.
 - C. This implanted word saves us and prepares us for heaven.

- 3) Prove yourself someone who _____ the word (22-25)
 - A. The word of God is like a mirror - helping us to see ourselves and address what needs work.
 - B. James tells us that the Bible is a “law of freedom” (or liberty). This contrasts with people who claim that the Bible is just a list of constricting do’s and don’ts.
 - C. The word will always bear good fruit and blessing for the one who applies it. (John 13:37; Luke 11:28; Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:1-3)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message.

1. What instruction did James give about the relationship between speaking, listening, and anger? (1:19)
2. What is the relationship between anger and righteous living? (1:20)
3. What should a Christian clean out of his or her life? (1:21)
4. What is the relationship between listening to God's Word and doing it? (1:22)
5. What analogy did James use to describe a person who does not do what the Bible says? (1:23-24)
6. What promise did James give to the person who studies God's Word and practices it? (1:25)
7. What does the Bible give to people? (1:25)
8. How is a person's speech related to the credibility of his or her faith? (1:26)
9. What did James describe as pure religion? (1:27)
10. What is pure religion? (1:27)
11. What makes it hard for us to be good listeners?
12. How can being quick to speak and quick to anger get you into trouble?
13. How do displays of anger and temper affect the witness of a Christian?
14. What attitudes and habits can inhibit our growth as disciples of Christ?
15. What makes it hard for us to practice what we know to be good?
16. How does our speech reflect our relationship with God?
17. How have you experienced freedom by doing the Word of God?
18. What can we do to help widows and orphans?
19. In what ways can the world pollute us?
20. How can we keep ourselves from being polluted by the world?
21. In what situations this week will you need to curb your anger? How can you?
22. What do you need to change in your actions this week to match your talk?
23. Whom will you help this week in obedience to God's Word?