

Pastor Lance Ainsworth

James 1:18-25

## MESSAGE NOTES

Thursday, Aug 6

Sunday, Aug 9

## Introduction:

notes

logos:

The gospel message. (Acts 13:26)

The incarnation, Jesus Christ. (John 1:1)

A spoken word or account. (Matthew 12:36,  
Hebrews 4:13)God's revealed truth that sanctifies. (Acts  
20:32, James 1:18-25)The Bible is God's revealed truth. (Hebrews 4:12,  
2 Timothy 3:16-17)

"God still speaks." January 4, 2026

[gatewayvisalia.com/watch](http://gatewayvisalia.com/watch) in the "Frequency"  
series.

James 1:18-25 NASB

<sup>18</sup>In the exercise of His will, He brought us forth  
(birth) by the word of truth (logos), so that  
we would be a kind of first fruits among His  
creatures.

We have been saved by God's initiative.

<sup>19</sup>This you know, my beloved brethren. But  
everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak  
and slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for the anger of man  
does not achieve the righteousness of God.<sup>21</sup>Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all  
that remains of wickedness, in humility receive  
the word (logos) implanted, which is able to  
save your souls.God continues to transform us through His  
word.<sup>22</sup>But prove yourselves doers of of the word  
(logos), and not merely hearers who delude  
themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if anyone is a hearer of the  
word (logos) and not a doer, he is like a man

who looks at his natural face in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. <sup>25</sup>But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

notes

Prove yourselves- ginomai - to be or become.

intently -parakupto - look closely, penetrating absorption

Four steps to engaging God's word: hear, study, become, and apply.

1. Hear- Hurry up and listen.  
Put off your own bias.  
Pray with humility, asking God to implant His word in you for transformation.

2. Study - Intently study the context. Study the Bible literally and literarily.

Who wrote it?  
Who received it?  
What did it mean to them?  
How does this point me to Jesus?  
What other scriptures support this idea?

3. Become - the goal is to know Jesus and be transformed into His image.

Study in community.

4. Apply - obedience is the evidence of transformation. (Hebrews 11:1, John 14:15)

God's Word is meant to produce to transformed disciples, not merely informed believers.

References:

"How to Read the Bible for All it's Worth"  
Gordon Fee, Douglas Stuart  
[www.bibleref.com](http://www.bibleref.com)  
[www.blueletterbible.com](http://www.blueletterbible.com)

---

## GROUP DISCUSSION

---

Does the Bible Actually Say?

GateWay Church of Visalia, Pastor Lance Ainsworth

James 1:18-25, August 6th & 9th, 2026

God's revealed truth.

Prayer Requests:

Group Discussion: What is your favorite movie of all time?

Read Aloud: James 1:18-25

1. Hear. James says we should be "quick to hear." What are some things that keep us from truly listening to God? What personal biases, distractions, or assumptions can prevent us from receiving God's Word with humility? What practical steps help you prepare your heart before reading Scripture?

2. Study. Why is studying the Bible in its context important? How can studying with other believers help us understand God's Word more accurately? Which of these questions do you naturally ask when studying the Bible?

- Who wrote it?
- Who was it written to?
- How does it point to Jesus?
- What other Scriptures support this truth?

3. Become. What's the difference between knowing more about the Bible and becoming more like Jesus? Can you think of a season when God's Word noticeably changed your character or perspective? Which area of your life do you sense God is currently transforming?

4. Apply. Why is obedience evidence of genuine faith rather than a way to earn God's favor?