

Real Faith and God's Word (James 1:19-27)

Real Faith: A Study of James

Discussion Questions

- How would you define the Bible?
- Can you think of any passages which highlight the importance of the Scripture in a believer's life?
- A 2021 Barna survey showed that while about 69% of Americans self-identify as 'Christian,' only 6% of those actually held and lived-out a biblical worldview. What problem(s) can you identify in that statistic?
- Read James 1:19-21
 - What is the example James is highlighting here? Why do you think he uses this specific example?
 - What is the call? What is the importance of the "implanted word" of the gospel?
- Read James 1:22-25
 - What does it mean to be a 'doer of the word'? Is it bad to hear God's Word?
 - What analogy does James use? Why is it effective? What's the point?
 - How is God's Word referred to in this passage? Why are those descriptions used?
 - Why does real faith not only start with God's Word but stays with God's Word?
- Read James 1:26-27
 - What is James contrasting? How does this tie into his initial example in vv. 19-21?
 - What is the point he is making about applying God's Word instead of merely hearing God's Word?
- How can we lull ourselves into merely being hearers and not doers of God's Word?
 - What does it mean to say that the goal of the Christian is not merely orthodoxy but orthopraxy?
 - Where areas of life are we tempted to barricade ourselves from the gospel (and its demands, values, ethics)?
 - How is the hypocrisy of our refusal to apply the Bible because detrimental to the mission of the gospel?
 - Where is it most challenging for you to embrace the kingdom vision for life under the reign and rule of Christ? Why so? How can small group help press the gospel into those areas?
- Which of the gospel identities (citizen, family, missionary) does this message most intersect and why?