

Hearers & Doers

October 11, 2026

Bible Passage: **James 1:22-25**

Big Idea: A _____ that works will engage God's Word and persevere in obedience of it.

Big Question: "How can you and I look into God's Word, reflect on what we see and make necessary changes?"

#1- Understand that hearing the Word of God is _____ (v. 22-24)

- James 1:22-24 *22But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. 24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.*
- James has _____ large group and two different groups (22a)
 - One large group - _____ (like a group of students in a classroom)
 - Two different groups
 - Hearers _____
 - Hearers & _____
- James reveals a danger we need to be aware of when engaging GOD'S WORD—_____. (22b)
 - "deceiving" (para/logizomai) means "to go against _____; to reason falsely"
 - They are deceiving themselves by thinking that just _____ to the GOD'S WORD ONLY, and not doing anything about it, will benefit them.
- James uses an objection lesson (23-24)
 - The _____
 - The purpose of a mirror is to reveal _____ so that change can happen if needed.

#2- I must hear and do/obey GOD'S WORD to be _____ (v. 25)

- James 1:25 *But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.*
- God wants me to _____ HIS WORD
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 - "_____"-- the idea of obeying it on a continual basis, tenaciously, doggedly in applying God's Word when it's difficult for you and accept it by making it a part of your lifestyle and who you are.
 - Colossians 3:23, Proverbs 3:9, Colossians 3:13, Hebrews 10:24-25
- God wants me to _____ HIS WORD
 - The opposite of forgetting is remembering.
 - How do I fight against forgetting? Philippians 4:8, Psalm 119:15-16, Psalm 119:97-99
- God wants me to be _____ by HIS WORD
 - God often allows things into our lives or call us to go through hardship---THIS VERSE PROMISES WE WILL BE BLESSED IN OUR DOINGS.
 - Do you see it...the blessing is not "for doing" the blessing is "in the doing"**

Fighter Memory Verse

OCTOBER

Psalm 19:9-11

⁹ the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. ¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹ Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

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Happenings



TRUTH INTO ACTION

- Know that God wants to be in relationship with you and Jesus died to make that possible. Receive Jesus as your Savior!
- Hearing God's Word is only the first step. Remember it!
- Obeying God's Word will force an honest look (The Mirror) but a rewarded journey is promised to the one who HEARS & DOES! Make that your aim!

Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily for Jesus. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Pray first†



Table Talk

This lesson is a follow up to the sermon. Please take the time this week to work through it in your community group or around your own kitchen table.

Warm Up: What's the funniest or most embarrassing time you realized you had forgotten what you looked like after leaving the house (food in your teeth, mismatched shoes, ink on your face, etc.)?

- James contrasts merely hearing God's word with obeying it. He warns that hearing without doing is like looking in a mirror and immediately forgetting what you've seen.
 - Discuss how a mirror is supposed to work.
 - Why is a mirror the perfect illustration to use when it comes to engaging the Bible based upon what you learned in this passage.
- What does it look like to be "merely a hearer" of the word? How have you seen this play out in real life?
- Read Matthew 7:24-29
 - This is the Sermon on the Mount, and this is Jesus teaching. Why is it significant that Jesus chose to include this at the end of the sermon?
 - If we hear the Words of Jesus and obey (or do) them, what are we likened unto (v.24)?
 - If we hear the Words of Jesus and do not do them, what are we likened unto (v.26)?
 - What do both groups have in common? [they both heard the same truth]
 - What happens to the one who hears and obeys versus the one who hears and ignores (v. 25,27)
 - What was the response of the people who heard Jesus teach this? (v. 28-29). Do you find this significant? If so, why?
- Discuss how God's Word changes how we love and live. Share some ways this has occurred in your life.

Prayer: Father the Word of God is a gift to us. Remind me often of the grave danger of hearing and not doing. Cause me to be tenacious in my seeking to both hear & obey Your Word. Amen!

RESOURCES: **James for You** by Sam Allberry; **Christ-Centered Exposition in James** by David Platt, Danny Akin & Tony Merida; **James New Testament Commentary** by Bruce Barton