



Title: Practical Living: Listening and Doing

Scripture: James 1:19-27

Date: 06032018

Bible Version: NKJV

BOTTOM LINE: Our testimony is built on how we interact with others around us.

Vs. 19

Be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath- James gives us a stepwise pattern that we can follow for how we relate to the world around us.

Much of our anger and wrath comes from being self-centered and not others-centered. Swift to hear is a way for us to be others-centered. Slow to speak is a way to be others-centered.- Guzik

[Pro 13:3 NLT] Those who control their tongue will have a long life; opening your mouth can ruin everything.

Stop speaking and start listening, and you'll hear God's voice in your trial.- Courson

Vs. 20

Wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God- James is communicating that an out of control believer does not produce the righteousness of God.

Or wrath almost always defends or promotes our own agenda.- Guzik

Living life in a wrathful way does not accomplish the righteousness of God.

Vs. 21

Lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness- James instructs us to lay aside all filthiness. Notice that we are just pick a few things. He says ALL.

Because of the goodness of God, we should lay aside all filthiness and wickedness.

Receive with meekness the implanted word- James says we are to receive with meekness (gentleness of spirit) the word.

One of the characteristics of meekness is a teachable heart.

Save your souls- The Word of God saves us.

The first thing, then is receive. That word 'receive' is a very instructive gospel word; it is the door through which God's grace enters us. We are not saved by working, but by receiving; not by what we give God, but by what God gives us, and we receive from him.- Spurgeon.

The Word of God carries the power of God.- Guzik

Vs. 22

Be doers of the word and not hearers only- James tells us that we must be doers of the word, not just hearers.

To take comfort in the fact you have heard God's word when you haven't done it is to deceive yourself.- Guzik

I fear we have many such in all congregations; admiring hearers, affectionate hearers, attached hearers, but all the while unblest hearers, because they are not doers of the word.- Spurgeon.

When we hear the word of God and act accordingly, there is a blessing.

The true use of hearing the Word, or reading it, is to amend one's self at once in those points in which the Word discovers us to be faulty.- Spurgeon

Vs. 23

He is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror- James says that when we are hearers and not doers, we are like someone who looks into a mirror.

Vs. 24

He observes himself goes away and immediately forgets what kind of man he was- The word 'observing' suggest this idea of careful scrutiny. James says we we observe, go away and forget who the word says we are.

We can be academic in our study of God's word but if that study yields inaction then it was not fruitful.

Vs. 25

He who looks into the perfect law of liberty- James suggest that we should look to this perfect law of liberty. The word of God is liberating.

Stop believing what others are saying about you and start believing what God says about you.

This one will be blessed in what he does- James says that when we look to the perfect law of liberty and do it, there is a blessing.

Vs. 26

Thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue- James give us a practical example of how to live a spirit led life. A life that is in control. One great place is start with what we say.

This one's religion is useless- Religion in this case references a works based initiative. As believers in Christ we are called into a relationship.

Our walk God is useless if it does not translate into the way we live and the way we treat others. - Guzik

Vs. 27

Visit orphans and widows in their trouble- James give us a suggestion on how we can determine if our religion is undefiled. He says that we can

visit orphans and widows. We can build relationships with Christ at the center with those around us.

and- James says not only should we visit orphans and widows (practically help others), we should keep ourselves unspotted.

The idea is not live your life in a shielded room, but to engage the world for the cause of Christ.

Charity and purity are two great garments of Christianity.- Spurgeon

Parents & Kids

TAKE **HOME**

DATE: June 3rd, 2018

Bible Story: Noah & the Ark

1. James tells us that we are to hear God's word and do what God's word instructs us to do. If anyone hears God's instructions but doesn't follow them, James says they are like a man who looks in the mirror, walks away, and immediately forgets what he looks like. Can you think of another example of hearing but not obeying and what consequences may come from that?
2. What does James say will happen if we listen and obey God's word?
3. God sometimes asks us to do things that don't make sense to others. What did God ask Noah to do? Why did the people around Noah think it was a crazy idea?
4. How was Noah rewarded for following God's instructions? Will God bless us for following His word? Who else should we obey when they give us instructions?

Memory Verse: "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only" **James 1:22**



June 3rd, 2018

Discuss

Dig Deeper



Practical Living: Listening and Doing
James 1:19-27

3D Guide

DO.

BOTTOM LINE: Our testimony is built on how we interact with others around us.



1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
4. What is your prayer for today?



DISCUSS.

1. What jumped at you from this block of scripture that makes you pause and think?
2. What are ways that we exhibit being hearers of the word but not doers?
3. Why do you think it is so hard to bridle the tongue?
4. What are some practical ways you can bridle your tongue in every day situations?

DO.



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on blueletterbible.com or with their app.

