

LifeGroup Discussion Guide for the week of 7/31/2021

## CONNECTION

[1] The book of James is often straight forward and practical in what it means to be a mature Christian. What role does God play in helping you become a "doer of the word" (James 1:22-24)? What encouragement does the promise that you will be blessed in what you do at the end of v. 24 give to you?

## **OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION**

- [2] How would you define "religion"? Is there a difference between religion and relationship when it comes to following Jesus? Please explain...
- [3] What role does "grace" and the "heart of the believer" play in the more "outward" behavioral teachings in the book of James?

## APPLICATION

- [4] The book of James teaches that trials help us grow in patience, wisdom, and faith. What types of questions do you need to ask yourself to get a better understanding of how you can grow personally through your trials? Can you share with your group an example of how you grew through a trial?
- [5] God will allow trials into our life to build our faith but he never brings temptations (James 1:13). Where do temptations come from and how can a trial lead to being tempted?
- [6] What choices can we make to avoid giving into temptations during a trial?

## REFLECTION

[7] Pastor Rich talked about how true believers in Christ have a passion to control their tongues (heart attitudes), serve others and keep their lives from being polluted and controlled by the values of the world.
In what areas of passion do you need to grow in? What is blocking you from releasing that passion? What encouragement does the promise that you will be blessed in what you do at the end of James 1:24 give to you?