James 1:19-25 - Hearing and Doing

Review

1. God's Word helps us fight temptation (1:19-21)

- a. Anger is one of the biggest doorways to temptation!
- b. Quick to hear, slow to speak = slow to anger
- c. When we are more interested in what WE will say next, miscommunication is often the result, and anger and frustration quickly follow.
 - This anger does nothing to "produce righteousness" = integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, correctness of thinking, feeling, and acting
- d. In order to avoid this and other temptations, receive the Word (v.21) (box below)
 - "Lay aside" = to put something away
 - "Implanted" = to allow another to implant instruction into you
 - * Psalm 119:11, 37:31

2. How do we receive the Word? (1:22-25)

- a. Hear the Word actually put yourself under its influence.
- b. Put into action what you have learned.
- c. Example of the mirror (vv. 23b-25)
 - To hear and not do = looking in a mirror in the morning and seeing a huge wound on his face and forgets about it. What would happen?
 - To hear and do = Seeing the wound on his face and immediately using that information to fix and care for the it will make his life much better! (blessed -v.25)

Thoughts to Ponder

- 1. What Scriptures can you memorize so that God's Word is hidden in your heart?
- 2. Why is it so important to do what we hear?
- 3. Are you actually using what you hear about God's Word devotions, church, Bible studies?

Why is God's Word, the Bible, so effective in changing lives?

- The Bible teaches us about God's character and nature.
 - * 1 Samuel 2:2, Isaiah 30:18, 1 Thessalonians 5:24, John 17:17, Psalm 139
- The Bible teaches us about who we are: God's creation, sinner, loved by God in spite of ourselves.
 - * Genesis 1-2, Romans 3:23,26, Romans 5:8, Romans 8:7-8
- The Bible teaches us that God desires to restore our relationship with Him: salvation, forgiveness for our sin.
 - * John 3:16, Romans 5:8, Ephesians 2:4-5, John 1:12
- The Bible teaches us how God designed us to live once we have accepted His gift of forgiveness for our sin
 - * 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Ephesians 4-6

