

WARM-UP: Engage ("Together")

1. What genre of movies or books is your favorite?
2. If Covid 19 was not a thing what is something you would do?

WORD: Establish ("Truth")

Leader: Questions below should allow for quick responses, evident by close reading of the text. Choose to use some or all of them (pending pace), as reading of the passage(s) will answer them as well.

- **Sermon Recap (if helpful):** Pastor Tyler noted how James' vision for thriving in faith is both defensive and offensive. It's a vision that he calls "completeness, wholeness, integrated, perfected" on 7 occasions in the letter. **In James 1:19-27**, this vision is one that pursues righteousness in lived truth. We participate in it by **defensively** guarding our hearts from the filth and brokenness of the world. This is worked out by being "slow to speak, quick to listen, and slow to become angry". We also pursue it **offensively** by being people who "do not merely hear the word of God, and so deceive ourselves." We do what God's word says we are to do. This religion is one that is powerful in its witness to the marginalized, "orphans and widows," who we care for in their distress. It is a credible witness to Jesus' power to transform our own lives and the lives of those who "see our good deeds and give glory to our Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16) as a result. May we live out this vision.

Read James 1:19-27

If helpful read in three chunks (vv 19-21, 22-25, 26-27). Questions follow this breakdown.

Read vv 19-21

- a. What are the three things James implores us to do? v19
- b. What are we to get rid of and what are we to accept? v21

Read vv 22-25

- c. James said to not merely be hearers of the Word, but to do what?
- d. What are the benefits of following the Word/ living it out?

Read vv 26-27

- e. What does James have an issue with in v 26?
- f. What does James tell us to devote ourselves to and what does he warn us to fight against? v27

APPLICATION: Equip (“Way”)

1. Do you more easily or naturally live out your faith in the offensive or defensive way? Offense- Caring for others, sharing your faith, ect. Defense- refusing to let the world corrupt you. What could you do to work on the side you least easily live out?
2. From what we read in James, what is challenging you to live a different life? How can you start living into that?

PRAYER Empower (“Life” in the Spirit)

1. Can we prayer for the offensive or defensive side of being a disciple of Jesus?
2. If discussed Application question 2, how can we support you?
3. Do you have a specific prayer request?

COMMUNION Together

Lead your group in communion in a way that feels right.

- If needed, 1 Corinthians 11:23-27
 - **23** ...that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, **24** and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **25** In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” **26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS at ASC

1. **All-Church (Physically Distant) Social Gathering:** Thursday, Sep 3rd at 6PM at South Lake Union Park (by MOHAI). Bring your mask, yourself, and friends (who attend ASC or don't yet) for simple time to be together as a church. We can't wait to see you. We will take all safety measures, but the only programming is to be together.
2. **All-Church Prayer Call on Wednesday's from 1230-1pm each week.**
1-253-215-8782, 86546382360#
3. Next Week, Please **INVITE A FRIEND** to join us online for week 5 of our new series **Practically Disciples The Book of James**. Share with your [social media](#) communities, engage our channels during the gathering to help others do so as well
4. If you haven't yet, **Sign up for ASC Newsletter Weekly Updates [HERE](#).**
5. Finally, if you are processing these reflection questions individually and aren't yet in an **ASC Small Group, we'd love to help you connect with a group to go deeper in Jesus.** You can do so by going to aseattlechurch.com/groups or emailing Candace + Aaron at groups@aseattlechurch.com.