

# MESSAGE REWIND

**SERMON NOTES & STUDY GUIDE** 

Reflect. Discuss. Apply.

Sermon Series: "Everyday Faith" (Study of the Book of James)

Sermon: "Faith That Makes A Difference" (James 1:19-27)

**Date: August 24, 2025** 

In this message, Pastor Brian reminds us that real faith is more than words. Real faith is shown in how we live. James 1:19-27 teaches us to control our reactions, commit to God's Word, and care for others. **Faith that makes a difference** listens before speaking, applies the Bible daily, and shows love in action. True faith is not just hearing but doing, and when we obey, God promises blessing.

## **Message Rewind (In Simple Words):**

#### 1. Control Your Reactions

James teaches us to be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Our words and actions should reflect Christ.

- James 1:19-20 "Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God."
- Proverbs 15:1 "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."
- **Ephesians 4:29** "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers."

#### 2. Commit to the Word

It is not enough to hear God's Word; we must obey it. Faith that makes a difference is faith that acts.

- James 1:22 "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."
- *Matthew 7:24* "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock."
- Psalm 119:11 "Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You."

#### 3. Care for Others

True faith is shown in how we treat those in need. Real religion is caring for others with the love of Christ.

- James 1:27 "Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself
  unspotted from the world."
- Matthew 25:35–36 "For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me."
- Galatians 6:2 "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

## **Rewind and Reflect: Discussion Questions:**

- Why is it important to be quick to listen and slow to speak?
- How have your words or reactions impacted others this week?
- What does it mean to be a "doer" of the Word and not just a hearer?
- Why does James highlight widows and orphans? What does that show us about God's heart?
- Where do you feel challenged the most controlling reactions, committing to the Word, or caring for others?

### **Prayer Focus:**

• Pray for patience and self-control when you feel angry or frustrated.

- Ask God to give you a teachable heart to receive and apply His Word.
- Thank God for blessing you and ask Him to help you live out your faith.
- Pray for widows, orphans, and those who are struggling, that God would provide for them.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you live in a way that others see Jesus in you.

# **Memory Verse:**

"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." James 1:22 (NKJV)

# **Encouragement For the Week:**

True faith is seen in how you live, not just what you say. This week, choose to listen more, obey God's Word, and show love to those around you. When you live out your faith, others will see Jesus in you.