

Faith ALIVE!

A study in the Book of James Lesson Two

**Gold River Calvary Chapel
Women's Bible Fellowship**

Faith ALIVE!

A Study in the Book of JAMES

Gold River Calvary Chapel Women's Ministry

Lesson Two

James 1:19-27

Summary: *This week we will learn how to be “doers” of the Word and what that looks like in a life.*

Step One: Read the Word

“In Him are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” Colossians 2:3 (CSB)

This study uses the English Standard Version Bible translation (ESV), which is provided for you in each lesson in Step One. Please use that version to fill in blanks or answer questions, but you are encouraged to read as many translations as you like in order to get a fuller understanding of the scripture.

In Step One, try to determine the “who, what, where, when or how” of the passage. Look for words that are repeated often, and circle any key words and underline phrases that stick out to you. Use the column to the right to jot down any notes, scripture references, or questions you might have.

Remember to always pray before you read God's Word, asking the Holy Spirit to open the scripture to your understanding.

Complete Step One by reading and marking up James 1:19-27, beginning on the next page and answering the questions that follow.

James 1:19-27	
---------------	--

English Standard Version

Hearing and Doing the Word

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the

<p>Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.</p>	
---	--

Step 1 Questions:

1. a. What three things does James tell believers to do in verse 19?

 b. Why? (Verse 20)
2. What would we be doing if we are hearers of the Word only, and not doers? (Verse 22)
3. What does James call the “perfect law” in verse 25? What promise are we given if we persevere in it?
4. What makes a person’s religion worthless? (Verse 26)
5. What makes a person’s religion pure and undefiled before God? (Verse 27)

Step 2: Consider the Word

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly...” Colossians 3:16 (CSB)

Re-read James 1:19-27 and answer the questions below. (Remember to use the English Standard Version (ESV) translation provided in Step One to answer).

1. In verses 19-20, James gives us a recipe for good communication with others and to help control our anger.
 - a. How would being *slow* to listen and *quick* to speak contribute to being quick to anger?
 - b. Why does human anger not accomplish God’s righteousness?
 - c. Scripture also talks about being angry but not sinning (See Mark 11:15-17, Ephesians 4:26, Psalm 4:4). What do you think is the difference between righteous anger and sinful anger?
2. See verse 21.

- a. How might filthiness and wickedness in a life make it difficult to receive with meekness the Word of God?
 - b. What practical wisdom does Romans 13:14 give us on how we might put away filthiness and wickedness?
3. Why do you think those who are just hearers of the Word, and not doers, are self-deceived? (Verses 22-24)
4. In verse 25, James says that Christians are under a perfect law, which he calls the law of liberty.
- a. Look up the following verses to get a better understanding of what he means by “the law of liberty:” Below each scripture, summarize what each passage says the law of liberty set us free to do and what we have been given the power not to do.

Galatians 5:1:

What we should do:

What we should not do:

(Question 4(a) continued)

Galatians 5:13-14:

What we should do:

What we should not do:

1 Peter 2:16:

What we should do:

What we should not do:

5. See verse 26. James says that if a Christian does not “bridle” his or her tongue, she is not only self-deceived, but her religion is worthless.
 - a. What is a bridle used for? How might that relate to our tongues?

(Question 5 continued)

- b. How might our obedience to verse 15 help us to bridle our tongues?
 - c. Look up the word “worthless” in the dictionary. What does that tell you about the value of our religion when we do not control our speech?
 - d. How does Psalm 19:14 teach us to pray so that we can bridle our tongues?
- 6. See verses 26-27. James now contrasts a “worthless” religion with a pure and undefiled religion.
 - a. Which of the two examples that James give us is “other” centered?
 - b. What do you think James means by “keeping oneself unstained by the world?” Could one still be in the world yet unstained by the world? (See John 17:15-16) Explain.

Memory Verse: “²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” (James 1:22)

Write the memory verse down below:

Step 3: Walk in the Word

“Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ...” Philipplians 1:27 (ESV)

Re-read James 1:19-27 and answer the questions below:

1. See verse 19. Which of these three: being quick to hear, slow to speak or slow to anger, is the most challenging for you? What have you learned this week from your study in James that might help you overcome this challenge?
2. Are there any areas in your life where you know you’ve been a “hearer” but not a “doer” of the scripture? Confess those to the Lord now and ask Him to help you by the Holy Spirit to be a doer of the word.
3. Think of instances in your life when you have been obedient to the Word, instead of just listening to the Word. How have you been blessed as a result? (Verse 25) How have you blessed others?

Write the memory verse below:

Memory Verse: ²² But be _____ of the word, and not _____
only, _____ yourselves.” (James 1:22)

What lesson or truth meant the most to you this week?

Journal a prayer below, thanking God for that truth.

[illegible]

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.