

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**Be Doers, Not Hearers Only****APPLY // JAMES 1:19-21**

Main Idea: Be quick to hear God's word and slow to share your opinions that you might live rightly before God and others.

1. Read James 1:19-21.
2. Why does James tell us to be quick to hear the Word? What are some ways we can go about doing this in the regular rhythm of our lives? What tempts us from being quick to hear God's word?
3. Why are we often quick to speak our own opinions? What does it look like to be slow to speak when we have a disagreement?
4. How does being slow to anger image God? What's the difference between righteous anger and sinful anger?
5. How does being quick to hear God's word help us become slow to speak and slow to anger?
6. How do you see Jesus modeling what it means to be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger?

OBSERVE & INTERPRET // JAMES 1:22-25

Main Idea: Authentic Christianity results in doing the Word not hearing it only.

1. Read James 1:16-25.
2. How do verses 22-25 fit the context of what James has been saying? What connections do you see between these verses and what comes before it?
3. Notice the "But" at the beginning of verse 22. What is James' concern? What's his progression of thought from verse 19-22 regarding the Word?
4. What does it mean to be a "hearer only"?
5. What does James mean when he says hearing only leads to "deceiving yourselves"? Why does hearing only, and not doing, lead to self-deception?
6. In verse 23-24, to what does James compare hearing only? What is his point about the person who looks the mirror and walks away forgetting what he saw?
7. In verse 25, James moves to looking into the law. How does James describe the law? How is the law perfect? How does the law give liberty/freedom? How is the Bible like a mirror?
8. The natural man walks away forgetting, but James calls us to persevere. What does it mean to persevere, to be a "doer who acts"?
9. What is the result of persevering in doing the Word? What does it mean to be blessed? How does doing God's word yield blessing? How is this different than obedience earning God's blessing?
10. How does this passage point us to the person, work, and worth of Jesus?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: Follow up from previous weeks.