

James 1:19-27
Hear and Do

Key question;

- I. Seek God's truth as an _____ and _____ learner
 - a. Being _____
 - b. Being _____
 - c. Battling our natural _____
 - d. The importance of _____
- II. Moving beyond _____ and _____ God's Word in our hearts
 - a. We need to remove _____ that prohibit _____
 - b. God's Word should always grow into _____
- III. Evaluating our _____ in God's Word
- IV. Blessed by the _____ law of _____

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. James 1:19 teaches, *“let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.”* The context the surrounding verses clearly suggest that James is specifically talking about how we are to respond to God’s word.
 - a. Although this teaching is primarily talking about how we respond to God’s word, the principle also applies to how we relate to each other. In your experience, how important is it to be “quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger?” Practically, why is this important?
 - b. Is the inclination to be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger in our human relationships correlated to our being quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger in our response to God’s word? Explain your answer.
 - c. What is the Bible teaching us when it calls us to be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger in our response to God’s word?
2. In verses 19-20 James warns us against anger in response to God’s word, and then in verse 21 he calls us to receive with meekness or humility *“the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”*
 - a. Why does he warn us against anger? How can we respond to God’s word with anger?
 - b. He contrasts the natural wrong response of anger with our need for meekness or humility. How are these two things opposite?
3. In his message Pastor Mike pointed out that there are many people who will claim that they believe and obey the Bible, but there is just this one area or this one teaching they disagree with.
 - a. He argued that our true belief in and commitment to God’s Word is revealed in how we respond to the parts we don’t agree with and/or we don’t like. What did he mean by that? Do you agree? Why or why not?
 - b. What are the teachings in the Bible you struggle with or disagree with? How do you respond to those? What does your response say about your belief in God and his Word?
4. When James contrasts the hearer of the Word and the doer of the Word, he says that the hearer is “like a man who looks intently,” but then walks away and forgets, teaching that the hearer can be one who is a serious student. What benefit do we have from studying and knowing the Bible if we don’t live it out?
5. James 1:25 teaches that *“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.”* Usually we don’t think of a law as being a law of liberty. We think of laws as something that prohibits liberty. Why is God’s word a law of liberty?
6. Are there things that you know the Bible teaches that you aren’t living out in your life? If so, why not? What is your response to the teaching of this passage?