

LESSON 4

JUST DO IT!

JAMES 1:19–27



1 When have you given someone advice only to have that person completely ignore it to his or her own peril? Why didn't that person do what you suggested?

2 Think of a time recently when you looked as though you were listening to someone but the words were going in one ear and out the other. What were you thinking about instead?



Read James 1:19–27 and the following notes:

☐ 1:19 ☐ 1:19, 20 ☐ 1:22–25 ☐ 1:25 ☐ 1:27

3 How do believers deceive themselves by just listening to God's message (1:22)?

4 What do you use a mirror for during the day? How is the Bible like a mirror for us (1:23–25)?

5 How can God’s law bring freedom (1:25)?

6 Most believers will say that the Bible is the most important book in their life. Why, then, is it so easy for us to almost immediately forget what we hear or read in the Bible?



As important as it is to read the Bible, James teaches us that it is not helpful unless we do what it says. It’s been said that it’s not enough to “talk the walk”; we must “walk the talk.” That’s the concern James has for us. As important as it is to know God’s Word, to be eager learners in personal Bible study and in church, it is equally important to be living out what we believe. Genuine faith will evidence itself in some very practical ways: in righteous living, godly speaking, and compassionate care. Does your lifestyle reflect your Christian faith? Whether you are at church, at a neighborhood gathering, or in the marketplace, people should see a consistency between what you say and how you live. Revelation demands response! Don’t fall into the trap of reading or listening to the Bible and then not putting it into practice.

7 What might be the effects in the life of a person who reads the Bible week after week but never puts any of the truths into practice?



8 In what ways does your church need to be more consistent in putting into practice what it teaches and believes?

9 Why is it often difficult to pay attention to the reading of Scripture in church? What would help you to pay closer attention?

10 What keeps you from doing what you read in the Bible? How could you make a closer link between what you read and how you behave?

11 What steps do you take to apply the Bible to your life?



12 What can you do to put the truths of the Bible into practice?

A How is it possible to keep a tight rein on the tongue? What resources does God provide that might be helpful for you?

B Which of the following is most difficult for you: listening intently to people, being slow to speak, or being slow to get angry?

C How is a concern for getting rid of all the “filth and evil” related to political and social action? What are some current issues in your local community where a Christian might take a stand?

D How is it possible to “refuse to let the world corrupt us”? What preventative steps are you taking now?

E What is so significant about having a desire to care for orphans and widows? Why would James highlight it as a mark of genuine faith?

F What groups of people might be included in the admonition to care for orphans and widows? What are some practical ways that you, and your church, can care for the orphans and widows of your world? Who are the orphans and widows in your life?

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