

STUDY GUIDE

Scripture Passages

James 1:19-27

James 2:1-13

Exodus 22:22

Psalms 68:5

Deuteronomy 24:17-22

Deuteronomy 26:12-13

Isaiah 1:17

Matthew 5:7

[Click here to watch this message.](#)

THE BOOK OF
JAMES
A FULLY ALIVE FAITH

Click on the resources used during the weekend messages
to engage in and support healthy discussions.

CITY HOPE CHURCH



Key Quotes

The book of James is full of application. Here are 5 things James points out to bring action to knowledge:

1. Quick to listen.
2. Slow to speak.
3. Slow to anger.
4. Get rid of filth and evil.
5. Humbly accept the word God has planted in us.

The word that James uses for “religion” is from the Greek word *Threskeia* - Refers to the outward expression of religion and the content of faith.

Action is a consistent theme through the book of James.

James makes a distinction between the sham and the reality of religious expression. If you want pure and lasting religion... Love, care and serve the poor, the orphan and the widow. This type of religion truly pleases God. He is serious about caring for widows and orphans.

“Meeting” - Greek Word - *synagoge* - signifies an assembly in the Jewish synagogues when they met to hear causes and execute justice. This occurred when these meetings were deciding matters of difference among members of the church.

Maimonides (a Jewish philosopher who became one of the most prolific and influential Torah scholars of the Middle ages) says "That is expressly provided by the Jews' constitutions that, when a poor man and a rich plead together, the rich shall not be bidden to sit down and the poor stand, or sit in a worse place, but both sit or both stand alike."

The ultimate reminder from James is for we as Christians to “Speak and act, “ which refers back to hearing and doing (James 1:19-27) so that we are held to the law of freedom. Love your neighbor is a direct correlation with mercy. Mercy (love) triumphs over judgment.

Let's Share About It

Question 1: Talk it out

James tells us to be “quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.” Have you ever had situations where you did the opposite - slow to hear and quick to speak and quick to anger? What problems did this cause? Why? come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ.

Question 2: Digging Deeper

- Read James 1:19-21 together. Spend a few minutes discussing what James says about anger.

Question 3: Digging Deeper

Moving on to James 1:22, how do we “deceive ourselves” by just listening to God’s Word?

Question 4: Talk it out

What is that mirror thing all about in James 1:23-24?

Questions 5: Talk it out

In verse 25, what does James refer to as God’s Law?

Questions 6: Talk it out

Verses 26 and 27 talks about two types of “religion.” Discuss the good, bad and ugly as it relates to the term “religion” in these verses.

Questions 7: Talk it out

In James 2:5-7, what does it say about the rich and the poor? How have you seen this play out in the past as it relates to favoritism?

Let's Do Something About It

It's time to act! James 1:22-25 tells us that it's important to do something about what we've learned. Have each person identify a next step based on what you've learned from this weekend's message. Write it down, and live it out this week!

Here are some ideas to get you started:

1. What are some areas in your life where you are quick to speak and slow to listen? Take an inventory of these areas and commit to taking action in exercising new habits in these crucial areas.

How will you decrease the voice of the majority and amplify the voice of the Majesty this week?

Based on what God highlighted to you this week—what is your next step to walk it out?

2. What stages of your life have you been perfectly content to know the truth, but not couple it with action?

3. Is there an area of society or even within the Kingdom of God where the mercy of God is not present in how you view them? Take time this week to consider ways to better empathize with those you have not

Let's Pray About It

Share your prayer needs & begin praying for each other for strength, boldness, and breakthrough! This prayer can help get you

LORD, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMISES.

We ask for eyes to see and ears to hear what Your Holy Spirit is saying to us, so we are a people prepared to cross over. We don't want to wander in the wilderness. Prepare us to take possession of the promised land You have prepared for us. Help us to hear, trust, and follow Your voice rather than the voice of the majority. God, we trust that your promises are bigger than the problems we face. Thank you for being faithful to us always.

IN JESUS NAME, AMEN.

