



Sermon Discussion Guide

May 11, 2025 | James 1:19-27 | Brad

SUMMARY

Big Idea: True Believers in Jesus Hear His Voice and Follow Him

Last week, 1:12-18 we saw that persevering faith hopes in God's promises, trusts His character, and remembers the word of truth that saved us. That message was a "Don't stop believing" message. This week, in 1:19-27, James continues his thought and adds 2 more crucial ingredients for genuine faith that perseveres through trials: true believers in Jesus hear his voice and follow him.. That is to say, they continue to hear and continue to do. This is a "Don't stop hearing and doing" message. The same agent of our justification and regeneration (the word of truth, v 18), is the same means by which God sanctifies us. James desires that we experience the blessing of obedience (hearing and doing), and not fall into the snare of vain hypocrisy (hearing and not doing.)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Intro

1. How good are you at multitasking? (maybe ask your spouse or others to weigh in)

READ James 1:19-21

2. In these verses, in what ways does James teach us that when it comes to hearing the word of God, *multitasking* doesn't really work? (i.e. what competes or impedes our ability to hear)
3. For James, what is it that he desire for us to hear?
 - a. Why does he desire this?
 - b. How does he say we must hear?
 - c. Which element of this hearing is most helpful for you? Most challenging?

READ James 1:23-25

4. According to James, how do you know if you are truly hearing?
 - a. How does this apply to your life? What does this mean for you?
 - b. How would you articulate this truth to your kids, your neighbor, your coworker?
5. How does seeing your natural face (face of your natural birth) differ from seeing the "perfect law of liberty"? How does this motivate and effect obedience?

READ James 1:26-27

6. What are the 3 tests James provides to see whether or not we truly have faith that works, and that we are truly hearing the word of God?
7. How do you measure up to this 3-fold test?
8. What other evidence do you think would affirm true hearing and doing in someone's life?
9. In light of these verses, what is God prompting you to do this week? How can this group encourage you and hold you accountable?