

## Show me your faith

James 2:18

### James 1:19-27

<sup>19</sup> My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, <sup>20</sup> for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. <sup>21</sup> Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

<sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

<sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

<sup>25</sup> But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.

<sup>26</sup> If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

## 2. By Doing the Will of God

### Listen to the Word of God

#### ▲ Receive the Scriptures

<sup>1:21</sup> humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

- ▲ Receive the Word with eagerness and humility
- ▲ Receive the Word with expectation and hopefulness

#### ▲ Restrain the sinful self

<sup>1:19</sup> My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, <sup>20</sup> for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. <sup>21</sup> Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

- ▲ Employ the ear
- ▲ Tame the tongue
- ▲ Avoid the anger
- ▲ Forfeit the filth

### Live out the Will of God

#### ▲ Listening to God's Word is nice and religious

<sup>1:22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

- ▲ Listening to God's Word is like facing a mirror
- ▲ Leaving God's Word is like forgetting the face in the mirror

#### ▲ Living out God's Will is necessary and rewarding

<sup>1:25</sup> But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does. <sup>26</sup> If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

- ▲ Real religion is recognized by proper language
- ▲ Real religion is recognized by practical love
- ▲ Real religion is recognized by pure living

#### Action Assignments

1. Assess your intake of God's Word both quantitatively and qualitatively – and make a plan for acceleration!
2. Build an inventory of personally applied promises and priorities from God's Word into your heart and mind!
3. Launch into each day determined to live a life of agreement with the Scriptures and the leading of the Spirit!
4. Ask the Holy Spirit to remind you of God's Word and will throughout the day and take joy in living it all out!