

**A Grounded Faith**

**James 1:19-27**

# **We Need A Grounded Faith**

**Ephesians 3:17**

**That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye,  
being rooted and grounded in love,**

**Colossians 1:23**

**If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and  
be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which  
ye have heard, and which was preached to every  
creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am  
made a minister;**

# **Our Faith Is Grounded On God's Word**

**Romans 10:17**

**So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the  
word of God.**

**1 Peter 2:2**

**As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the  
word, that ye may grow thereby:**

# What The Word Of God Can Do

## Psalm 19:7-11

**7 The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.**

**8 The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.**

**9 The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.**

**10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.**

**11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.**

# Key Words

## Hearer

One who sits passively in an audience listening to a singer or speaker

## Doer

Implies the total immersion of a person  
Becoming what you hear because you believe and value it

“James does well to remind us that what is heard in the holy place must be lived in the market place – or there is no point in hearing at all.” William Barclay

# **I. Receive The Word (1:19-21)**

## **James 1:19-21**

**19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:**

**20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.**

**21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.**

# **I. Receive The Word (1:19-21)**

## **A. A Proper approach to hear the Word (v 19)**

### **1. Quick to listen**

- a. We need to put ourselves in a position to hear God's Word**
- b. Pursuing the Christian life without hearing God's voice makes your religious**

**“James’s appeal is for believers to seize every opportunity to increase their exposure to Scripture, to take advantage of every privileged occasion to read God’s Word or hear it faithfully preached or taught. The sincere, eager desire for such learning is one of the surest marks of a true child of God. When he is specially blessed, he turns to the Word to find passages of thanksgiving and praise. When he is troubled, he searches for words of comfort encouragement, and strength. In times of confusion, he searches for words of wisdom and guidance. When he is tempted, he searches out God’s standards of purity and righteousness for power to resist. The Word is the source of deliverance from temptations and trials. It becomes the most welcome friend, not only because of what it delivers us from but also because of what it delivers us to – glorious, intimate, and loving communion with God.” John MacArthur**

# **I. Receive The Word (1:19-21)**

## **A. A Proper approach to hear the Word (v 19) – cont'd**

### **2. Slow to speak**

**a. You can't hear if you are talking**

**b. You can't hear if you're formulating what you're going to say next**

**c. Carefully plan your words because you are speaking for God**

# **I. Receive The Word (1:19-21)**

## **A. A Proper approach to hear the Word (v 19) – cont'd**

### **3. Slow to wrath**

**wrath = a seething, smoldering anger, inwardly and privately harbored**

**The Word of God always confronts sin and conflicts with our opinions and sub-standard convictions**

**Would Christ die on the cross for our opinions?**

# **I. Receive The Word (1:19-21)**

## **B. A proper alignment to hear the Word (v 21)**

**1. naughtiness - deliberate and determined sin**

**2. filthiness - any sort of impurity or moral vice**

**a. Dirty clothes that need to be stripped away**

**b. The building up of ear wax on your ear drums  
impeding sound**

**To hear the word you must be clear from sin within**

# **I. Receive The Word (1:19-21)**

## **Colossians 3:8-12**

**8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.**

**9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;**

**10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:**

**11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.**

**12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;**

# **I. Receive The Word (1:19-21)**

## **C. A proper attitude (v 21)**

**1. Meekness - a submissive and teachable spirit  
without resisting**

**Proverbs 3:34**

**Surely he scorneth the scorers: but he giveth grace  
unto the lowly**

**2. Engrafted - Like a seed planted in the ground  
God puts the Word there through the Holy Spirit  
not you**

# **I. Receive The Word (1:19-21)**

## **D. A proper anticipation (v 21)**

**“which is able to save your souls”**

**The Word is able to save our souls in three ways**

- 1. Past - Brought us to the reality of our sin and lost condition and to the saving grace of Jesus**
- 2. Present - Able to save in the present guarding our hearts during times of tempting (Psalm 119:105)**
- 3. Future - Points us to the ultimate end of sin and the promise of the glorification in eternity**

## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

### **James 1:22-25**

**22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.**

**23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:**

**24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.**

**25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.**

## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

### **A. Show a proper attention (vv 22-25)**

**John 8:31**

**Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;**

**“The bottomline of true spiritual life isn’t a momentary feeling of compliance or commitment, but a long-term obedience to Scripture.” John MacArthur**

## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

### **A. Show a proper attention (vv 22-25)**

#### **1. Desire God's approval (v 22)**

- a. Be ye - continually striving because you cannot be satisfied. You have not arrived**

#### **Philippians 1:6**

**Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:**

#### **Philippians 3:12**

**Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.**

## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

### **A. Show a proper attention (vv 22-25)**



## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

### **A. Show a proper attention (vv 22-25)**

#### **2. Look for God's truth (v 25)**

##### **a. Looketh - to stoop down to scoop up**

### **Psalm 1:2**

**But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.**

### **2 Timothy 2:15**

**Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**

## II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)

**Allow God's Word  
to penetrate and alter  
our behavior**

## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

### **James 1:26-27**

**26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.**

**27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.**

## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

### **B. Have proper application (vv 26-27)**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

**16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:**

**17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**

**How we apply God's truth to our actions and behavior is proof either of our salvation or of our lost condition**

## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

### **B. Have proper application (vv 26-27)**

#### **1. Apply the Word with control**

**Religious - external religious rituals and activity**

**“Your mouth is the bucket that dips into the well of  
your heart”**

## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

**B. Have proper application (vv 26-27) - continued**

**2. Apply the Word without conceit**

**a. To visit - to care for others by visiting them and by exercising oversight on their behalf to help them in their time of need.**

**John 13:35**

**By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.**

## **II. Respond To The Word (1:22-27)**

**B. Have proper application (vv 26-27) - continued**

**3. Apply the Word without compromise**

**a. to keep - a continuous motion to remain clean**

**1 Peter 1:13-16**

**13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;**

**14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:**

**15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;**

**16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.**

Do You "Hear" God?

