

---

## **SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE**

### **James 1:19–27**

19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. 21 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.

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

26 Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. 27 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.

**1. The Word of God is meant to be a mirror, not binoculars.**

**2. The Word of God gives freedom not enslavement.**

**3. Religion is worthwhile only when it's redeemed and fueled by the person and work of Jesus.**

### **TWO QUESTIONS:**

- 1. Are there any areas of my life where I confuse knowledge OF God's Word with obedience TO God's Word?**
- 2. Where have I experienced obedience leading to freedom in my own life? How could I use that experience to encourage my walk of obedience today?**

---

## **GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Please take a moment to read the passage of Scripture together.**

**How do you see verse 19 lived out in your life? Was there a time this week you had to choose to live this way?**

**From this same verse, how do you see a stark difference from what we see in the world?**

**Read verse 22 together as a group. How can we deceive ourselves? How do we balance knowing the Word and living it out?**

**Look at verse 25. How would you say the Scriptures have become more than just a cursory glance for you? How do you look intently into them?**

**How can we be careful to avoid legalism as we study this passage?**

**James is a very practical book for living out our faith. How has the Lord spoken to you in that regard through this sermon?**

**How can you take what you know to be true of God's Word and live it out this week? Share one practical way.**