

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

JAMES

These questions are for the **May 31, 2015 Sermon**, "The Practitioner." Please read the sermon passage (James 1:19-27) together out loud.

Sermon Outline:

GOD'S IMPLANTED WORD EQUIPS US TO BE . . .

1. **Emotionally disciplined in our relationships** (19-21)
 - A. Quick to hear. Rush to listen. This has to be commanded because it doesn't come naturally.
 - B. Slow to speak. Discipline your words. Because free-flowing words bring relational stress.
 - C. Slow to become angry. Battle wrong assumptions, interpretations and conclusions.
2. **Scripturally consistent in our behavior** (22-25)
 - A. The Word of God won't let you hide.
 - B. Hearing and knowing are insufficient. There must be trusting and doing.
3. **Socially responsible in our culture** (16-27)
 - A. Not "the social gospel," but a gospel which is socially responsible in our culture.
 - B. Real religion serves the people around us who cannot return the favor.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: The only "quick" commanded in this passage is that we are "quick to hear." Who around you needs you to start listening to their needs, engaging their hearts and asking lots of questions about their situation? Are you ready to do this?
2. Based on #1, above: The first command to slowness is the command to be slow to speak. No believer should be offering their opinions or advice quickly. Words should come after prayer, reflection and seeking the right timing. How are you doing in this discipline?
3. Based on #1, above: Note that these commands are for all of us. No one gets a free pass to talk first and think/pray later because "that's just the way they are." Do you sin with your mouth and then justify it because "that's just the way I am"? How does this impact relationships?
4. Based on #2, above: What area of your life is the least consistent with a Bible principle? How can we encourage you to grow in this area? How has God been working on your heart in this area over the past 6 months?
5. Based on #3, above: Religion can be "true" and good. It is also self-sacrificing and humble. How can our Life Group develop a heart to serve our church or community in a "true religion" way?