

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 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 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 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. James 1:22-25 (NIV)

Do What It Says

How goofy would that be, to glance into a mirror and forget what I look like? I will say this; I have made the mistake of taking too quick of a glance into a mirror and failed to notice what I looked like. I failed to see what the mirror wanted to show me. I didn't have to make that mistake too many times before I learned to take a good and long intent look at myself in the mirror. **What about my word, are you taking a good and long intent look at my word or are you making the same kind of quick glance mistakes?** That's a good question. **The only consequence of quickly glancing at yourself in the mirror may only be embarrassment. What do you suppose might be the consequences of only taking a quick glance at my word?** If I only take quick glances at your word, it will never sink into my heart and mind and life. My heart will not be changed by your word. My mind will not be transformed by your word. I may half hear your word, but, never put it into practice. **That's right.**

Do you want to hear my word? Do you want to put my word into practice? Do you want your heart to be changed by my word? Do you want your mind to be transformed by my word? I want your word to flourish and grow in my life. I want your word to work in me, through me and for me. I want your word to change my heart, transform my mind and guide my life. There is not one sentence from your word that I don't want to hear and put into practice. I want to know and do your word. **So, what will you do?** I will look intently into your word. I will make hearing and doing your word the rhythm of my life. A day will not go by that I will not meet with you in your word. I will continually ask you to help me to put your word into practice in my life. **That will be very good. Your life will be blessed as you hear and do my word.**

Lord, I will not be a hearer only of your word. I will listen carefully to your word so that I can also put it into practice. I will make hearing and doing your word the daily rhythm of my life. Help me to remember your word. Bless my life as I hear and do your word. Amen

Rhythms

Listen - Do

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 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 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 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.

NIV

James 1:22-25

Rhythms

Listen - Do

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

NLT

James 1:22-25

Rhythms

Listen - Do

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

NRSV

James 1:22-25

Rhythms

Listen - Do

But be doers of the Word [obey the message], and not merely listeners to it, betraying yourselves [into deception by reasoning contrary to the Truth]. For if anyone only listens to the Word without obeying it *and* being a doer of it, he is like a man who looks carefully at his [own] natural face in a mirror; For he thoughtfully observes himself, and then goes off and promptly forgets what he was like. But he who looks carefully into the faultless law, the [law] of liberty, and is faithful to it *and* perseveres in looking into it, being not a heedless listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he shall be blessed in his doing (his life of obedience).

AMP

James 1:22-25

Rhythms

Listen - Do

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

NASB

James 1:22-25

Rhythms

Listen - Do

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

ESV

James 1:22-25

Rhythms

Listen - Do

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

NKJV

James 1:22-25

Rhythms

Listen - Do

Don't fool yourself into thinking that you are a listener when you are anything but, letting the Word go in one ear and out the other. Act on what you hear! Those who hear and don't act are like those who glance in the mirror, walk away, and two minutes later have no idea who they are, what they look like. But whoever catches a glimpse of the revealed counsel of God—the free life!—even out of the corner of his eye, and sticks with it, is no distracted scatterbrain but a man or woman of action. That person will find delight and affirmation in the action.

MSG

James 1:22-25

Rhythms

Listen - Do

And remember, it is a message to obey, not just to listen to. So don't fool yourselves. For if a person just listens and doesn't obey, he is like a man looking at his face in a mirror; as soon as he walks away, he can't see himself anymore or remember what he looks like. But if anyone keeps looking steadily into God's law for free men, he will not only remember it but he will do what it says, and God will greatly bless him in everything he does.

TLB

James 1:22-25

Rhythms

Listen - Do

Do what God's teaching says; when you only listen and do nothing, you are fooling yourselves. Those who hear God's teaching and do nothing are like people who look at themselves in a mirror. They see their faces and then go away and quickly forget what they looked like. But the truly happy people are those who carefully study God's perfect law that makes people free, and they continue to study it. They do not forget what they heard, but they obey what God's teaching says. Those who do this will be made happy.

NCV

James 1:22-25

Listen – Do

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Rhythms – James 1:22-25

In Context: Read James 1

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: *(What is God speaking to your heart?)*

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 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 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 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. James 1:22-25 (NIV)

Considering The Words: *(What words speak to your heart?)*

Do not | merely | listen to | the word, | and so | deceive yourselves. | Do what | it says. | 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 | and, | after looking | at himself, | goes away | and | immediately forgets | what | he | looks like. | 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. James 1:22-25 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture: *(What prayer from your heart will you write?)*

Lord, I will not be a hearer of your word only. I will listen carefully to your word so that I can also put it into practice. I will make hearing and doing your word the daily rhythm of my life. Help me to remember your word. Bless my life as I hear and do your word. Amen

What It Means: *(What questions speak to your heart?)* (Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)

How are you making it the daily rhythm of your life to hear and do God’s word?

Why is it not enough to only hear God’s word without putting it into practice?

When have you failed to put something from God’s word into practice?

When have you suffered because you heard, but, did not put God’s word into practice?

What have you recently heard from God’s word, but, have not yet put it into practice?

What from God’s word have you recently heard and put into practice?

How has the Lord blessed your as you have heard and done His word?

Living It Out: *(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)*

Make it the daily rhythm of your life to hear and do God’s word.

Seeing It Happen: *(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)*

Have faith that the Lord will bless your life as you hear and do His word.

Get Ready To Share: *(What can you share with others from your heart?)*

Share with another person or your small group how you are both hearing and doing God’s word.

Close With Prayer: *Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May your life be blessed by hearing and doing God's word.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, bless my life as I hear and do your word.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I hear and do your word today?
