

CONNECT Group study questions for April 26, 2020

“James 1:19-27”

Prayer for the Week of April 19th: This week we are praying that God will continue to show us how to do ministry in these difficult times. God has done some amazing things through our church in the last month, and we are both praying and trusting that God will continue to be faithful to us. Pray for our missionaries that God would keep them safe and give them fruit for their ministries. Pray for our ministers and lay leaders here at the church as they strive to continue their ministries online and serve God’s people. Pray that God would use these difficult times to draw people to Him, and that the gospel would be proclaimed mightily as we love people well and as we strive to fulfill the great commission.

1. **Read James 1:19-21.** Here James is giving some specific examples of what it means to be spiritually mature. His first example is of a person who listens, isn’t quick to speak, and doesn’t get angry quickly. His second example is of a person who “puts away” sin and receives the Word of God? James intends us to think of these together, so . . .

- What is the relationship between being quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger? Why is it that James doesn’t think you can do one without the other two?
- What is the relationship between receiving the Word and “putting away” sins?
- Where do we find the gospel in this passage in James?

2. **Read James 1:22-25.** James, in his letter, likes to argue from the specific to the general and then back to the specific. If James 1:19-21 is very specific, James 1:22-25 is a general admonition about our relationship to the Scripture.

- How can we make sure that we are constantly being hearers of the Word of God?
- How can we make sure that we are also doers? Be practical!

3. **Read James 1:26-27.** James, in his letter, likes to give us the example of two people, one who does what James is saying and the other who doesn’t (e.g. the one who asks in faith and the one who is double-minded - James 1:5-8 and the one who looks and remembers/does and the one who looks and forgets - James 1:22-25). James is now telling us what the person who looks into the Scripture and then quickly forgets what he or she reads lives like.

- How does this person live according to James?
- Why do you think James uses such strong language here?