



Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions

Topic: *Beyond the Page: Living It Out*

Text: James 1:19-27

Service Date: October 18, 2026

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

Getting Started

- Have you ever tried to assemble something or complete a project without reading the instructions, only to realize later that you should have followed them? What happened?
- Who is someone in your life whose actions consistently reflect their Christian faith? What stands out to you about the way they live??

Sermon Discussion

Big Sermon Idea: Bible engagement isn't just about how much Scripture we read, but how much of it we are willing to live.

- James instructs believers to be "quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." Which of these three instructions do you find most challenging, and why?
- The sermon pointed out that we sometimes read Scripture looking for something that needs to change in someone else rather than ourselves. Why is it often easier to recognize someone else's spiritual shortcomings than our own?
- Read Ephesians 4:29 alongside James 1:19–20. How do these passages challenge the way Christians communicate, particularly when disagreements arise or when using social media?
- James tells believers to "humbly accept the word planted in you." What does it mean for God's Word to be planted in our hearts rather than simply stored in our minds?
- Pride, bitterness, and unconfessed sin can prevent us from responding to God's Word. How can we recognize when something in our lives is keeping us from being receptive to Scripture?
- The sermon emphasized that feelings are real, but they aren't always facts. When facing disappointment, uncertainty, or a personal crisis, how can Scripture help us distinguish between what we feel and what we know to be true about God?

- Read James 1:22–25. Why does James compare someone who hears God's Word but doesn't obey it to a person who looks in a mirror and immediately forgets what they look like? What does this illustration teach us about spiritual growth?
- James 1:25 describes God's Word as the "perfect law that gives freedom." How can following God's commands actually bring freedom rather than restrict it? What other passages of Scripture help explain this connection?
- The sermon compared selective obedience to shopping from a catalog, choosing the things we like and leaving the rest behind. Why are we sometimes willing to embrace God's promises while resisting His commands? What are some biblical teachings Christians may be tempted to overlook?
- The sermon shared the example of a woman who turned down a promotion because she was unwilling to compromise her integrity. What are some situations today in which following Scripture might require personal sacrifice, inconvenience, or standing against popular opinion?
- Read James 1:26–27. James identifies controlling our speech, caring for vulnerable people, and remaining unstained by the world as evidence of genuine faith. Why do you think he emphasizes these particular areas? How do they connect to Jesus' teachings?
- The sermon asked, "What do people learn about Jesus by watching the way we treat them?" How might our everyday interactions with family members, coworkers, neighbors, and strangers either strengthen or weaken our witness for Christ?

This Week's Action Response

- What is one specific teaching from Scripture that you need to put into practice this week? Identify one action you will take, when you will take it, and how you can invite someone to encourage or hold you accountable as you follow through.