



Study of: James

THEME: CHRIST INSIDE AND OUT

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Class 3: Growing in Trials

Class 3 Overview:

This lesson explores how trials reveal spiritual needs, emphasizing the intentional removal of moral filth to receive the implanted Word. It further highlights that transforming faith requires active obedience, moving beyond hearing to doing in order to avoid self-deception..

Class Objectives:

1. **What spiritual needs have your trials revealed?**
2. **How do we ensure that we aren't just hearers of the Word?**
3. **What is the growth relationship between the Word and work?**

Release to Receive

James 1:21 *"Therefore lay aside all filthiness and [d]overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."*

- **"Filthiness and wickedness"** - obscene and offensive; evil and bad - moral filth
 - **Colossians 3:5;8** *"5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry." ; "8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth."*
 - This is not an exhaustive list of behavior - we are to put off the passions of our old man (lower level living) - Everyone has filthiness and wickedness to deal with
- **"Lay aside"** - Principle of exchange - God never asks us to release anything without a replacement (If we die we live; give and we'll receive; in humility we're exalted; act as a servant we become rulers)
 - This is intentional work that must be done to "receive with meekness" the implanted word!
 - "Meekness" speaks to our attitude towards God's word - We can't receive a word that we don't think we need!
 - Now we understand the blessing of the trial - the trial reveals who we are and what we need (unawareness and indifference)

Q. What spiritual needs have your trials revealed?

Refuse Deception

James 1:22-24 “22 *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 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; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.*”

- AMP “*But be doers of the Word [obey the message], and not merely listeners to it,*”
- How do people come to church for years and never see a change in their lives?
 - All hearing but no implementation is like forever going to football practice, never playing a real game
 - **Luke 6:46** “46 *“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?”*”
- “**Deception**” - means to deliberately cause someone to believe something that is not true, misleading by withholding meaningful parts
 - You can live your life believing you’re a Christian, but that’s NOT true
 - Some struggle to identify as Christian because they failed - the deceived are those who aren’t trying at all (the prodigal son wasn’t self-deceived the older brother was)
 - Titles will deceive you! Titles will lie on you!
 - **Matthew 7:21** “21 *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.*”
- “**Immediately forgets**” - GK “epilanthanomai”[epi-lawn-thano-mi] - means to forget through neglect and overlooking - neglect by failure to address
 - **2 Timothy 3:12-13** “12 *Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. 13 But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.*”

Q. How do we ensure that we aren’t just hearers of the Word?

Growing in Trials

James 1:25 “25 *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.*”

- “**Looks into**” - means to look in the Word carefully and faithfully - its a FIXED part of his life!
- “But a doer of the work” - he addresses what the word shows him - he does *the WORK*
- **John 14_15-16** “15 *“If you love Me, [d]keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another [e]Helper, that He may abide with you forever”*
 - Too many Christians WANT but don’t WORK - You have to WANT and WORK! The Holy Spirit will be our helper!
 - **Psalms 1:2-3** “*But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he [b]meditates day and night. 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the [c]rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.*”

Q. What is the growth relationship between the Word and work?