

“Listening into Action”
A Personal or Small Group Experience

There is such a powerful connection between “listening” to God through his Word and then “doing” what He says. It’s the same thing that God is saying in the Philippians passage we covered in the message this week, “*It is God who is working in us to will and to do according to His good will and purpose!*”

To get the “doing” thing right we have to get the “listening” thing right or it won’t be God in us - it will be “us in us”!

James is a Christ-follower that is a tough. You can tell he has been through a lot. He is straight forward and no nonsense in his letter. Ancient history says his nickname was “ole camel knees” for the calluses built up from hours of prayer! To get a feel for James’s attitude towards faith, trusting God, status in life, what ‘s really important etc., read and discuss James 1:1-18 and spend a little time talking about the feel of the text and James’s no nonsense style of faith.

What is important to him that he thinks his readers need to get?

Now specifically look at James’s teaching on “exercising “ one’s faith in the verses below.

Notice and discuss the importance of listening, really listening to the Word!

What things do you suppose James is seeing in the church that is frustrating him and therefore giving motive for this letter?

What is God saying to you about the priority of exercising faith in real tangible ways both to form us and for us to make a difference?

Read James 1:19-27

Read James 2:14-24

“A Summer to Thrive!”

“Connecting With God” Weekly Guide

This booklet is a resource to help you “Connect with God” this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

This Page has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

The Center Pages contain the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from www.pointofgracechurch.org

The Back Page has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week’s theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week’s message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

Scripture & Meditation Guide - June 27-July 2

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart and offloading your heart of stifling, burdens, guilt, worry etc.!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwelling on “words and phrases” which grab your heart’s attention. As you read and reread keep asking God, “What do You want me to hear?” “Why this word at this time?” “How are You inviting me to respond? Keep talking it over with Him—chew!
- 4) Pray (and journal) everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!
Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him

Monday: Psalm 100

Tuesday: Philippians 2:12-16

Wednesday: Psalm 121

Thursday: James 1:19-21

Friday: James 1:22-27

Saturday: 1 John 3:13-18