

**“Life According to Jim” Sermon Series
Part #1 – A Practical Guide to Godly Living**

James 1:22-27

James 1:22a (NASB) – But prove yourselves doers of the word,
and not merely hearers...

Series Summary

The purpose of this series is to help each Christian learn to apply the basic principles of their faith. We have been called to live out our faith and to carry out the message of the Gospel to this world. We will discuss the practical application of the Word of God for our everyday lives as seen in the book of James. This series is needed for every new Christian and for people who want to refresh their walk with the Lord.

Big Idea – Faith is More than Words: It is Alive and Active

Main Passage

James 1:22-27 (NIV) – ²²Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵But 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. ²⁶If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

A Practical Guide to Godly Living

Step #1 – Make Your Faith More Than Words: Live for Jesus

- **James 1:22** – ²²Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.
- **Luke 11:28** – He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

We need an outbreak of holy heartburn, when **hearers** shall be **doers**, when congregations shall go out from meetings to do things for God. – *Vance Havner*

By all means, Mark Your Bibles but also allow your Bibles to Mark Your Life!

Step #2 – Look into the Mirror: Recognize Your Need for Jesus

- **James 1:23-25** – ²³Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵But 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.

Step #3 – Recognize that the Tongue Reveals the Heart

- **James 1:26-27** – ²⁶If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Memory Verse

- **James 1:22** – Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Application

Life According to Jim Challenge – Begin this series by learning to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. **Step #1 – 30 Day Challenge** – May a commitment to read the entire book of James at least once per day for the next 30 days. **Step #2 – Journal** – Write down or journal what God is showing you through this study. **Step #3 – Action** – Let the month of August be a month of action for your faith. Find at least one way to serve the Lord each week this month.

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