

Faith That Works

James 1:19-27

Respond With Patience (vv.19-21)

- **Matthew 13: 18-23** “Hear then the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

“Genuine discipleship is evidenced by ongoing obedience to Scripture.” John MacArthur.

- **Romans 10:17** “Faith comes by hearing the message of Christ.”

React Through Participation (vv.22-25)

- If you have not been moved to action from the Word of God, you’ve never been gripped by the cross. How could someone remain the same after the transforming power of Christ strikes them? We come to Christ just as we are, but walk with Him as a new creation. It’s impossible unless we’re a counterfeit, not to act upon His word. Billy Graham has made the statement that 85% of church members in America are not born again.

- **Matthew 7:21-23** “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ 23 And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

- **James 4:17** “So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.”

Resolve By Daily Practice (vv.26-27)

a. ministry of the tongue

Proverbs 12:18 “There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”

Ephesians 4:29 “Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.”

b. ministry to orphans and widows

Exodus 22:22-24 “You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless.”

John 14:18 “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.”

Isaiah 1:17 “Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.”

Psalms 27:10 “For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in.”

Psalms 68:5 “Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation”

c. ministry of holiness

1 Peter 1:14-16 “As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”