

Family Devotional

From January 22, 2017

Play Charades: Have one person act out some sort of activity or profession without using words and see if everyone else can guess who they are. Example: if you want people to guess: teacher, you might pretend to call on students, grade papers, write on a pretend chalkboard, etc. Play as long as your group wants to, then finish with someone acting as a Christian: praying, reading the Bible, helping others, etc.

We recognize who people are by their actions. Let's see what encouragement James has for us.

Read: James 1:22-27

Reflect:

- Why does someone look in a mirror?
- So if they look in the mirror, but then immediately forget what they look like, was there much value to looking in the mirror in the first place?
- Why do we read the Bible?
- Why is it important to let it impact what we do and who we are? Read John 13:35.
- What are some things the Bible tell us to do? (For suggestions check out- Matthew 22:36-40, Exodus 20: 1-17, & Luke 6:37)
- Go around the group and have each person pick one of these things and share what it would like for a person to live this out. Example: God tells us to honor our father and mother; we can do that by doing what they ask us to do the first time we are asked.

When we think back over the life of Jesus, we can see how he was a living example of what it looked like to be a doer of what the Father told him to do. In the same way, as we read the Bible and live out what it says with God's help, it shapes us to look more like Jesus!

Challenge: Pick one thing the Bible says to do that does not come naturally to you. Commit to becoming a doer of this command and not just a hearer. Ask God to help you. That doesn't mean this action will automatically become easy for you, but it does mean you are relying on God to help you make it a habit. If you mess up along the way that doesn't make you a failure. It means you are trying! It also creates the perfect opportunity to confess to God and ask Him to help you again.

God also gives us our family and church family to help us in this journey. Check in with each other next week and share your experience. Be praying for and encourage each other throughout the week

Remember: As a family, choose a command God gives us and work together to memorize/meditate on and do it this week.

Ideas: Write this passage down and hang it on the refrigerator. Say it together as a family during meal time each day. Write it on a chalk or white board and erase a couple of words each day until you can say it by memory.

Respond: "Dear God, thank you for giving us your word! Help us to be both readers and doers of your word so we can become more like your son Jesus..... Amen!"