



## Real Faith // Real Action

### #3 Prepare Receive Apply

**Introduction:** The classic Christian writer A.W. Tozer once wrote; *“It appears that too many Christians want to enjoy the thrill of feeling right (with God) but are not willing to endure the inconvenience of being right (with God).”* There appears to be a sort of spiritual divorce between what we believe and what we practice that James deals with in this passage. He begins with the issues of our soul that are can be expressed in ways that don’t reflect our changed being as a Christian.

**Play and listen:** King of Kings - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLcIIBDpP7V--lHis-kcY7r6HAUFoWxlKT&time\\_continue=4&v=Of5lcFWiEpg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLcIIBDpP7V--lHis-kcY7r6HAUFoWxlKT&time_continue=4&v=Of5lcFWiEpg)

**Pray:** Worship God as a Father, King of Kings, God of glory, majestic, Saviour and more...

**Read:** James 1:19-27

**Play Video:** <https://youtu.be/SoSPCW9jqNw>

**Share** for 1 min each what your “take away” thought is from this video

#### Thoughts to share:

- Check out Tozer’s quote above. In what ways have your actions belied your heart.
- Read James 1:22. How do you think that not doing what God has said, deceives us?
- Getting beyond trials (vv2-12) and temptations (vv 12-18) is one thing. James challenges us to go beyond to our behaviour. There appears to be a great divide between what we believe and how we live. Talk about it, but be sure to reflect on your own heart.
- After James gives us some things to deal with in the arenas of listening, speaking, getting angry and moral filth, he then calls us to accept God’s word with humility. What does that mean in practice? How should that inform and transform our lives? What attitudes should be seen in us as we live out this kind of faith?
- Attending church services and hearing the word is one thing; discussing it at Connect groups might be another.... but James tells us to **practice it** or we’re kidding ourselves. Are sermons, books, discussion groups etc transforming or just informing your life? What’s the next thing God has told you to do in obedience to His work in your life?
- For years people have quipped about “going deep with the Lord.” What do you think they mean by this? What should it mean? How does it connect with what James is saying in “doing.”

**Consider...** God’s desire is for us to grow to be more like Jesus. It’s the work of the Spirit that lives within us as His children. We get to, not have to, cooperate with the Spirit and that means He gets control of our soul - our wills, our emotions, our mind - which impact what we say and how we say it and so much more. Will you submit and abandon yourself to the work of the Spirit today and reap the benefits for the rest of your life?

**Pray ...** what Jesus prays for his disciples. John 17:21-23