

PERSEVERANCE DURING TRIALS JAMES 1:19-27

Chi Alpha Lifegroup Guide James

PRE LG TEXT MESSAGE QUESTIONS

How do you feel when people go back on their word? Is it important that you do what you say you will do, or are you okay with occasionally going back on your word?

This is what we'll be discussing at Lifegroup tonight as we continue our study on the book of James.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

James 1:19-20

10N1 FOLLOW UP

What "moral filth" do you personally feel you may need to get rid of?

Are there areas in your life where you are challenging people with scripture, but you are not living by scripture myself?

OVERVIEW

The following video by The Bible Project gives a great overview of the book of James: <https://youtu.be/gn-hLHWwRYY>

INTRODUCTION

- Have you ever had someone in your life who has said one thing but then went back on their word? How did you feel/how did you respond to that?
- Do you think that upholding your words with your actions is important? Why?

Evil is not of God (James 1:19-20)

- Are you slow to anger? Or quick to speak?
- What does human anger often result in? (Fights, mean words, bitterness, etc.)
- In verse 20, James says that human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. How can we produce the righteousness that God desires, even when we're frustrated?
- If the word is planted within us, how can that "save us"?

Listen to the Word and Act on the Word (James 1:22-25)

- Do you feel like your relationship is rooted in scripture? Do you memorize scripture? Do you read scripture daily?
- Do you allow scripture to shape you? Or is it something that you just read and move on?
- Do you look at yourself in the mirror often enough to not forget what you look like? Do you also look at scripture often enough to not forget what Christ looks like so that you can uphold yourself in the same light as Christ?

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *James is stressing here the importance of hearing the Word, soaking in the word, and responding in a way that is righteous and in line with Scripture. In any situation, you give honor to someone by both listening to them and doing what they say. If you merely listen to a parent, teacher, or coach but don't do what they say then there will likely be negative consequences. It is the same with God's Word.*

Religion Vs. Relationship (James 1:26-27)

- What connotations does the word "religious" spark in your brain? Negative? Positive? Neutral?
- Do you consider yourself to be a "religious" person?
- How does religion as described in v.27 differ from what most people today think of religion?

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *In these scriptures, we see that James said that religion (believe in Christ & living a Godly lifestyle) is not just people upholding the law. But religion is then followed by relationships with one another and with God. God finds religion as pure and faultless when we follow the law, but also love people and are not influenced by worldly things.*

APPLICATION

- How has your understanding of what it means to follow Jesus been influenced by what the world or people around you says?
- How can you re-center that understand on the Word of God?

