

Problem:

Matthew 21:23-41

“anyone can take a reservation.. you actually have to hold the car”

what if you wrote a letter to me so i knew what to do house sitting for you while you were away?
you write detailed instructions and leave them for me - you come back and the place is in
shambles - you would ask -why didn't you read my notes? What if i said i did they were great - i
read them every day and i even wrote a song about them etc.

Text:

Hearing the Word

James 1:19 ¶ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be **quick to hear**, slow to speak,
slow to anger;

James 1:20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

James 1:21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and **receive** with meekness
the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

slow to speak

proverbs - 3:5-7 vs

*Proverbs 1:7, 22, 32; 10:8, 10, 14, 18, 21, 23; 12:15-16, 23; 13:16, 19-20:15:2, 5,
7, 14; 17:7, 10, 12, 16, 21, 24,28; 18:2, 6-7,...*

slow to anger

the Word of God hurts so we tend to get angry with the speaker etc - Hebrews 4:12-13

*->this is a call for humility when it comes to the Word of God. we live in the age of speaking our opinions
not the age of hearing and learning. our opinions need to take a back seat to the revealed truth and we
must make listening a major priority - how we feel about the truth can be sorted out later - we need to
know it - (Eph 1 as example - meant to be comforting but we debate it and ignore it)*

AND applying the Word

James 1:22 ¶ But be **doers of the word**, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

James 1:23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a **doer**, he is like a man who looks
intently at his natural face in a mirror.

James 1:24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.

James 1:25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being
no hearer who forgets but **a doer who acts**, he will be blessed in his doing.

->doers act even when its hard (perseveres) = blessed

-relating this to joy in trials - seek it for real it is not ok to wallow in despair

*- Non believers do not have any intention or conviction to apply the Word and so it is not for them
1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:1-3 - looking away from the mirror does not take away your ugliness*

- Isa 6:5; Luke 5:8; Job 42:6 - they saw themselves and took believed it

- 2 Sam 12:1-9, 13 - so did David

*->it is not enough to hear the Word - it is not enough to be a fan of the Word we must be a follower of the
Word. It is speaking to us and we must act on it.*

is normative Christianity

James 1:26 ¶ If anyone thinks he is **religious** and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his
heart, this person's religion is worthless.

James 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and
widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. **(writing to those being persecuted)**

-> deceives himself/ his heart - James 1:16, 22, 26

Implication:

don't kid yourself - The world does not need good Pharisees - It needs good samaritans

-Luke 10:25-37

->doers of the Word are the only real hearers of the Word.it is not enough to hear the Word - we must hear with a mind to actually obey it - to actually apply it to our lives...and then we need to actually apply it!!!

Main Idea

don't kid yourself - The Word is not for good Pharisees - It is for good Samaritans

Application:

watch and discuss the distinctive video on worship/service and on 2:42 groups and discuss how to use the time together more effectively for mutual encouragement to apply in a specific way the sermons you hear:

<http://www.barabbasroadchurch.com/distinctives.php>

what can you do actionably to get better at application?

-take notes?

-set goals?

-pray specifically for tangible situations that apply to the message?

-use facebook to share needs and meet needs?

read the following articles and use them to help understand and apply the sermon:

here is a link about applying the Bible to your life:

<http://www.gotquestions.org/applying-the-Bible.html>

here is a more thorough resource regarding application:

[http://www.preceptaustin.org/the_key_inductive_study_\(pt3\).htm](http://www.preceptaustin.org/the_key_inductive_study_(pt3).htm)