James 1:22-25

*22 “But become doers of the word and not only hearers, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, that one is like a man staring at his true face (the way it really looks) in a mirror,*

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*24 but who after staring at himself and gone away immediately forgets of what he looks like. 25 But the one who looks in the perfect law of freedom and perseveres—not as a hearer who forgets, but a doer who acts—this one is blessed in his doing.”*

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***Maturity is marked by obedient action resulting in blessing.***

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**Proper listening requires action.**

*22 “But become doers of the word and not only hearers, deceiving yourselves.”*

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

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**Poor listening results in deception.**

*23 “For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, that one is like a man staring at his true face in a mirror, 24 but who after staring at himself and gone away immediately forgets of what he looks like.”*

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**Proper listening requires the influence of Scripture.**

*25 “But the one who looks in the perfect law of freedom…”*

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2 Timothy 3:16-17

*“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”*

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John 8:31-32 *“So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, ‘If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples,**and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”*

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**Proper listening requires perseverance.**

*25b “…and perseveres—not as a hearer who forgets, but a doer who acts…*

*20 “For the wrath of men does not accomplish the righteousness of God.”*

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**Proper action results in blessing.**

*“…this one is blessed in his doing.”*

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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. 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?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”*

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***Maturity is marked by obedient action resulting in blessing.***

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