

Table Group

Week of August 23, 2021

James 1:17-27

17 Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all. **18** He chose to give us birth by his true word, and here is the result: we are like the first crop from the harvest of everything he created.

19 Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry. **20** This is because an angry person doesn't produce God's righteousness. **21** Therefore, with humility, set aside all moral filth and the growth of wickedness, and welcome the word planted deep inside you—the very word that is able to save you.

22 You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves. **23** Those who hear but don't do the word are like those who look at their faces in a mirror. **24** They look at themselves, walk away, and immediately forget what they were like. **25** But there are those who study the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continue to do it. They don't listen and then forget, but they put it into practice in their lives. They will be blessed in whatever they do.

26 If those who claim devotion to God don't control what they say, they mislead themselves. Their devotion is worthless. **27** True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us.

When do you find yourself merely a 'hearer' of the word and not a 'doer'? What motivates you to act on God's word?

Ponder these questions and share as you are comfortable:

- *What known sins have you committed since our last meeting?*
- *What temptations have you met with?*
- *How were you delivered?*
- *What have you thought, said, or done, of which you doubt whether it be sin or not?*
- *Have you nothing you desire to keep secret?*