

Living Faith ~ Pastor Alex Perednia ~ September 24, 2017

#3 FAITHBOOK ~ An Active Faith? (James 1:18-27)

Examining what the book of James (*Faithbook*) teaches us about what faith is and how to strengthen it.

Opening: It is easy to “like” a Facebook post, but let’s not fool ourselves into thinking this alone really changes the world.

I. **What is our REACTION to God’s posts in Faithbook?** We must learn to *really listen* to the Bible. (James 1:18-21)

- A. Be quick to listen, much slower to speak! (1:19a)
- B. Be on guard against other reactions, like rationalizations or anger! (1:19b-20)
- C. Be willing to being challenged and changed! (1:21)

II. **What is our RESPONSE to God’s posts in Faithbook, the Bible?** We must learn to *really do something* about the Bible! (James 1:22-27)

- A. The **Command** to do something. (1:22a)
- B. The **Danger** for those who don’t do something. (1:22b)
- C. The **Analogy** for those who don’t do something. (1:23-24)
- D. The **Promise** to those who will do something! (1:25)
- E. The **Examples** of what doing something looks like. (1:26-27)

BIG IDEA: *It’s not good enough to merely “Like” God’s posts in the Bible, but God wants us to carefully listen and then do something about it.*



CONNECTION GROUPS at Living Faith
Sermon-based Group
Wednesday, Sept. 27 @ 2PM and 7PM

1. What are some posts that can get strong reactions – both positively or negatively—on Facebook? Have you ever reacted to a post only to regret it later? Today, we are going to consider an analogy between our response to posts on Facebook and what our response to God’s posts in *Faithbook* (the Bible) should be.
2. Read James 1:19-27. Watch our video: <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/159923#3>
3. Francis Chan says about James 1:19, “I am not sure if there is a more needed passage in the church today (than this one).” Why does he say this? In what ways do you see the need for this discipline in our homes and church?
4. According to James 1:21, what must be quick to listen to *the most*? On a personal level, how can we do this most effectively? In our church, we talk about the first piece of the puzzle of discipleship as “Come and Hear.” How does our church try to do this? Do you have any ideas how to do this better?
5. According to James 1:22, what is the danger of *merely* “liking” God’s posts in *Faithbook*?
 - a. What is the command in James 1:22 and what is the real and present danger if we do not?
 - b. How does the analogy of James 1:23-24 show the folly of not responding properly to God’s Word?
 - c. How can the promise of James 1:25 encourage us to do something concretely about God’s Word?
 - d. According to James 1:26-27, what are some concrete steps we must take to put God’s Word into practice in our lives? What else can you and I do?

MEMORY VERSE: James 1:22