



Growing in Fruitfulness (James 1:19-25)

1. Prepare the _____: set the _____ for _____. (v 19-21a)

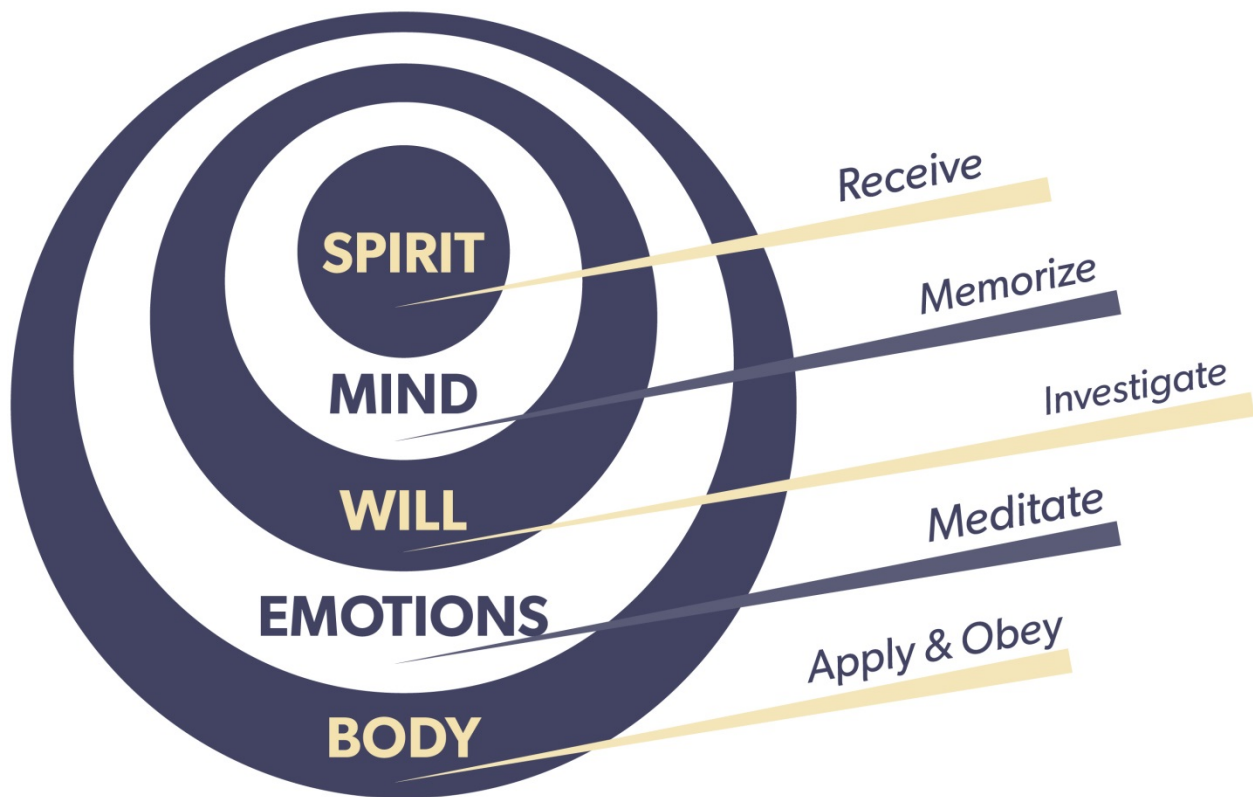
2. Receive the _____: _____ the _____ Word. (v 21b)

3. _____ the plant: _____ in the Word. (v 22-25)

How to Engraft the Word

<p>Know the passage (Exercise your mind)</p>	<p>Ask questions about the passage (Understand with your will)</p>	<p>Study the passage (Understand with your will)</p>
<p>Picture the Passage (Know with your emotions)</p>	<p>Pray the Passage (Know with your emotions)</p>	<p>Apply the Passage (Change your actions)</p>

James 1:21, "...receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."



Ephesians 4:29

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Matthew 15:18

But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person.

Proverbs 12:18

There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Matthew 12:36

I tell you, on the Day of Judgment, people will give account for every careless word they speak.

Proverbs 16:24

Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

Colossians 3:8

But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.

Proverbs 15:1

A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

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.

Psalms 19:14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Colossians 4:6

Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Proverbs 18:13

If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.

Proverbs 10:19

When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

James 1:19-20

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Ephesians 5:19

Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord.

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Hebrews 3:13

But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Hebrews 10:24

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

1 Peter 4:9

Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.

James 5:9

Don't grumble against each other, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

Philippians 2:14

Do all things without grumbling or disputing.

Proverbs 10:17

Whoever heeds instruction is on the path to life, but he who rejects reproof leads others astray.



DAY 1

Pray: Please open this time in prayer asking the Lord to show you if there is anything you need to surrender to Him from this passage, and thanking Him for His mercy in your life.

Memorize: Please go over James 2:14-15 and then read James 2:16 several times, emphasizing a different word each time you read it.

James 2:16, "and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?"

Study: Please read James 2:1-13. Today we'll focus on vs. 1-4.

1. Please describe what it means to show partiality. _____

2. In what ways is James saying that the people were showing partiality? _____

3. For what other reasons are you tempted to show partiality? _____

4. What do the following verses tell you about God's view of showing partiality?
 - a. Acts 10:34-35 _____

 - b. Romans 2:11 _____

 - c. 1 Timothy 5:21 _____

 - d. Jude 1:14-16 _____

 - e. Proverbs 14:31 _____

5. What are motives for showing partiality? _____

6. When we show partiality, what are we valuing? _____

7. From vs. 4, how is showing partiality being a judge? _____

8. What kinds of evil thoughts run through a person's mind when showing favoritism?

Pray: Please close this time in prayer, confessing to the Lord any area of your life where you're tempted to show favoritism. If you can't think of any ways that you show partiality, please ask Him to show you if you do.

DAY 2

Pray: Galatians 3:28 says, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Please open this time in prayer, thanking the Lord that He shows no partiality with you.

Memorize: Please read James 2:16 several times and then unscramble the words to put it in order:

And that of good says body, them, for in things be them and without filled giving warmed the peace, needed Go the to what you is one?

Study: Please read James 2:1-13. Today we'll focus on vs. 5-7.

1. Please review vs. 1-4. What reason does verse 5 give for not showing partiality? _____

2. Please describe the following phrases:

- a. Rich in faith (see 2 Corinthians 8:9) _____

- b. Heirs of the kingdom (see Romans 8:17, Titus 3:7) _____

3. What connection is there between loving God and not showing partiality to others?

4. What do the following verses say about wealth?

- a. Deuteronomy 8:17-18 _____

- b. Proverbs 11:28 _____

- c. Mark 10:17-25 _____

- d. 1 Timothy 6:9-10 _____

- e. 1 Timothy 6:17-18 _____

5. Please summarize your understanding of the perspective God wants us to have about wealth.

6. According to vs. 6, who did James say the recipients of his letter were dishonoring?

7. What did James say the rich were doing?

- a. Vs. 6 _____
- b. Vs. 6 _____
- c. Vs. 7 _____

8. How is showing partiality blasphemy of God's honorable name? _____

9. In what other ways do people “blaspheme the honorable name” of God?

a. In their actions: _____

b. In their attitudes: _____

Pray: As you close this time in prayer, please share with the Lord anything that impacted you from today’s homework. Thank Him that “God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him” (Acts 10:34-35).

DAY 3

Pray: Please open this time in prayer. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, “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.” Ask the Lord to reveal His truth to you and to open your heart to receive what He wants to teach you.

Memorize: Please fill in the blanks:

James 2:16, “and _____ of you _____ to them, ‘Go in _____, be warmed and _____,’ without _____ them the things _____ for the body, what _____ is that?”

Study: Please read James 2:1-13. Today we’ll focus on vs. 8-10.

1. According to vs. 8, how do we “fulfill the royal law?” _____

2. Please give an example of a situation in your life when someone has loved you as herself/himself. _____

3. From the following passages, please choose some things in which you need the Lord’s help to follow through in order to love others:

- a. Romans 12:9-21 _____

- b. Colossians 3:12-17 _____

4. What 2 things does vs. 9 say we're doing if we show partiality?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
5. How would you explain to a child how seriously God takes favoritism? _____

6. Joshua 1:8 says, "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." Please explain how seriously you take the Bible as being the authority...
 - a. In your relationships? _____

 - b. In your attitudes? _____

 - c. In your decisions? _____

7. According to vs. 10, why would it be wrong for us to measure our sin on a scale of 1 to 10?

8. What sin in your life do you often let slide as not being a big deal? _____

Pray: Please close today with this prayer:

Dear Father,

I confess to You that I have taken certain sin in my life for granted. I have treated this sin _____ (name the sin) as though it wasn't a big deal. But it is enough to separate me from You without the precious blood of Jesus paying my debt. With Your help, I pray for the strength to lay _____ (name the sin) down. I choose You over my sin. Thank You for Your redeeming love and forgiveness.

Love,

“O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption” (Psalm 130:7).

DAY 4

Pray: Psalm 18:1-3 says, “I love You, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the LORD who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.” As you open this time in prayer, please take some time to think about God’s character and thank Him for who He is. Ask Him to speak to you today through His word.

Memorize: Please fill in the blanks:

James __: __ “and _____ of you _____ to them, ‘ _____ in _____, be _____ and _____,’ without _____ them the things _____ for the _____, what _____ is _____?”



Study: Please read James 2:1-13. Today we'll focus on vs. 10-13.

1. Please read vs. 10-11 again. Please rewrite vs. 11, but in place of the words, "adultery" and "murder," please substitute them with sins with which you personally struggle.

2. Please define the following words:

- a. Liberty _____
- b. Legalism _____

3. What do you think the difference is between "the law of liberty" and legalism?

4. How can you speak and act as one who will be judged under the law of liberty without getting caught up into legalism or being motivated by guilt or shame? _____

5. What do the following verses teach about mercy?

- a. Micah 6:8 _____

- b. Zechariah 7:9 _____

- c. Matthew 5:7 _____

- d. Matthew 7:2 _____

- e. Lamentations 3:22-23 _____

6. Please explain the correlation between partiality and mercy. _____

7. Please read Matthew 18:21-35

a. What does this passage tell you about God's mercy? _____

b. What does this passage tell you about God's expectation of you showing mercy?

c. If someone asked you why you should be merciful to others, how would you respond?

8. Can you share some ways that God's mercy has triumphed over judgment? _____

9. Is there a person in your life that you need to show mercy rather than judgement? How will you do that? _____

Pray: Please close this time in prayer, asking the Lord to enlighten you to all the ways He shows you mercy, and asking Him to help you to show mercy to others.

DAY 5

Pray: Hebrews 4:15-16 says, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." As you open today in prayer, please take some time to thank the Lord for His understanding of who you are and for His open arms that call you into His presence to receive mercy and grace.

Memorize: Please quote James 2:14-16 from memory.



Study: Please read James 2:1-13.

Please pick out 5 of the verses from the passage that have impacted you. Please (a) rewrite each of the 5 verses in your own words and (b) explain its impact in your life.

1. Verse _____

a. Rewrite: _____

b. Impact: _____

2. Verse _____

a. Rewrite: _____

b. Impact: _____

3. Verse _____

a. Rewrite: _____

b. Impact: _____

4. Verse _____

a. Rewrite: _____

b. Impact: _____

5. Verse _____

a. Rewrite: _____

b. Impact: _____

6. Looking over the passage, what do you learn about the character of God? _____

7. How did Jesus live this out? _____

8. What will you take from this week's passage to apply to your life? _____

Pray: Please write a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord for who He is and your response to Him about what you learned this week.

Dear Father,

Love,