

James 2:1-26 "Taste and See That the Lord IS Good!"

June 9, 2024 Pastor Don Talley

1)*** "Just do what Jesus said!"

"Live your Christian life at the 'COMMITMENT Level'

...don't just be a SPECTATOR!"

2)*** The key to spiritual strength is found as I identify and join in Christ's crucifixion...

...CONSCIOUSLY commit every morning—and every moment—to BELONG to Jesus!

3)*** We will be JUDGED by the law of liberty because, in Christ's strength, we are ABLE to live by the law of liberty.

4)*** Why is this LAW called "the law of liberty?"

...in a word ... because it LIBERATES us!

5)*** Without God's grace actively working in my life, I am still a SLAVE to my old desires, the pull of this World's pleasure, and Satan's wily temptations...

...only in Christ, I am FREE!

6)*** You may be a child of the King!

...but you are living like a beggar...

You are hindering God's BLESSINGS!

7)*** ...when you're testing your faith—you're TRUSTING God!

8)*** You aren't trusting if you aren't TASTING!

You must commit! Put it in your mouth!

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Galatians 3:28

Romans 7:19, 24-25

John 13:34-35

2 Corinthians 13:5

Psalm 91:1-4,14-16

1 Samuel 16:7

Philippians 4:13

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

James 1:25

Genesis 15:6

John 13:35

Galatians 2:20

Romans 3:28

Psalm 84:11-12

Psalm 34:8

Romans 13:8

Galatians 6:2

1 John 2:19

Romans 4:2-3

1) "Just **DO** what Jesus said!"

"Live your Christian life at the ' _____ Level'

...don't just be a _____!"

2) The **key** to spiritual strength is found as I **identify** and **join** in Christ's crucifixion ... _____ **commit** every morning—and every moment—to _____ to Jesus!

3) We will be _____ by the law of liberty because, in Christ's strength, we are _____ to live by the law of liberty.

4) Why is this **law** called "the law of liberty?"

...in a word ... because it _____ us!

5) Without God's **grace** actively working in my life, I am still a _____ to my old desires, the pull of this world's pleasure, and Satan's wily temptations...
...only in Christ, I am _____!

6) You may be a child of **the King**!

...but you are living like a beggar...

You are hindering God's _____!

7) When you're **testing** your faith—you're _____ God!

8) You aren't **trusting** if you aren't _____!

You must commit! Put it in your mouth!

Food for Thought for the week of June 9, 2024

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

Life Groups are on break! Feel free to use the following study questions with your personal devotions!

- 1) This week we read in James 2:13 how “judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy.”
Look up and read Matthew 18:21-35. What stands out to you from this passage?

What things make it harder for you to forgive others?

Why do you think Jesus makes such a big deal about not forgiving those who sin against us?

Sometimes we need to stop and remember our own sin against God, so that we can remember the immense “debt” that He has forgiven us of. Doing so will help us to forgive others when they sin against us.

- 2) Explain in your own words how the following statements relate to each other:

Ephesians 2:8-9 - “[8] For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, [9] not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

James 2:17 - “Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

If someone told you they don’t think they could ever make it to heaven, what would you tell them?

If someone told you they’re headed for heaven because they believe in Jesus - yet their life lacks any fruit - what would you tell them?

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If someone told you they’re headed for heaven because they believe in Jesus - yet their life lacks any fruit - what would you tell them?

3) Looking back at your walk with Jesus, what are some specific things He has changed in your heart? What are some ways you are different now that you believe in Jesus?

What are some specific things you can do this week to *SHOW* your faith?

4) What stands out to you in the following passage?
Luke 6:46-49 - "[46] 'But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say? [47] 'Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: [48] 'He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. [49] 'But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.'"

Why do you think Jesus connects the title of "Lord" to the action of obedience?

Why do you think God calls you to total obedience, as opposed to only partial obedience?

What can you do when you feel stuck between God's command to obey and your sinful heart that doesn't want to?

5) What do you most need to remember or apply from this week's message and scripture?

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