

THE WORD

JAMES 1:22-25

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: Previously we have seen what to do to *accept* God's Word. In this lesson you will see how to have God's blessing in *doing* His Word. "The absence of God's Word leaves you with no direction." Hunter Gray

IS NOT FOR YOUR AUDITING. To "audit the Word" means that your emphasis is simply on attending and listening to the Word being preached or taught but not allowing the Holy Spirit to do the life-changing work of the Word in you. Our Lord does not check the rolls. He checks the heart! (**James 1:22, fn 1:22-25, Revelation 3:14-20, fn 3:15, II Peter 1:2-11, fn 1:9, Matthew 7:21-27, fn 7:24-27**) *How is thinking that simply attending church and Bible study is sufficient in our relationship with the Lord deceptive?*

IS FOR YOUR LIFE CHANGE. When you look into a mirror, it reflects back to you what needs to be changed. God's Word, when read or heard, reflects to you what needs to be changed in your heart. (**James 1:23, 24, Hebrews 4:12, 13, fn 4:12, I John 2:3-6, fn 2:6, Psalms 119:105, fn 119:105, Psalms 119:11, fn 119:11**) *What should you be looking for when you attend Bible study?*

IS FOR YOUR BLESSING. A godly joy is experienced when you, a believer, put into practice God's Word that has been placed in your heart. As you allow the Holy Spirit to apply God's Word to your heart, He transforms you more and more into the image of Jesus Christ. God's promised blessing is not only in the doing but also in your changed life. (**James 1:25, fn 1:25, John 13:15-17, Ephesians 1:3, fn 1:3, II Corinthians 3:18, fn 3:18**) *How could you obtain more and more blessings from God?*

Check up—How is your relationship with your neighbor, your spouse, and your Lord. Do your actions show that you are being led by the Holy Spirit?

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