

Week 5, Devotional 1 – James 1:19-20

Activity	Source
Prayer	<u>Adoration:</u> Lord, you are patient when we are not. You are righteous and we are not – as we often do the wrong things. Help us to learn to be more like you as our Bible passage talks about today.
Scripture Reading	James 1:19-20.
Discussion Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does it mean to be quick to hear and slow to speak? 2. Are you a good listener? Who is the best listener you know? 3. What does it mean to be slow to anger? Who do you know that is the most patient? Do you admire that person? 4. Can we be angry all the time and still become more righteous/like Jesus? (V 20). 5. What makes you angry that you need God’s help with? 6. What did you learn through this lesson?
Hymn/Song	<p>Listen to “Slow to Anger” by Joshua Miller and Vineyard Worship (see lyrics below). OR if you have little ones, the song might be too slow. Try just listening to a kids song like “Slow to Anger Scripture Memory Song”</p> <p>V1</p> <p>Surely goodness, and Your mercy Will follow me forever Your loving kindness, sweet forgiveness Are new with every day</p> <p>Chorus:</p> <p>You are slow to anger, rich in love Your kindness is pursuing us</p> <p>V2:</p> <p>You won’t condemn us, or discard us Even when we’ve gone astray Your loving kindness, sweet forgiveness Are new with every day</p> <p>Chorus:</p> <p>You are slow to anger, rich in love Your kindness is pursuing us</p>

	<p>Bridge:</p> <p>Hallelujah, hallelujah</p> <p>Hallelujah, You're pursuing us</p>
Prayer	<p><u>Confession:</u> Lord, we are often not very slow to anger. Things can set us off quickly. Yet, when we think of people who are more patient, we see how beautiful that can be. Help us to be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger. Forgive us when we fail to be those things.</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you that you are slow to anger even when we are not. You have amazing patience and kindness toward us and we are so grateful.</p> <p><u>Supplication:</u> God, make us more patient and kind toward one another. You have shown us so much grace – let us show it to others even when they bother us.</p>

Week 5, Devotional 2 – James 1:22-24

Activity	Source
Prayer	<u>Adoration:</u> Lord, you are all good, all knowing, all loving, and all powerful. You are worthy of our praise as we read your Word, sing, and pray together.
Scripture Reading	James 1:22-24. Find a version of the Bible with simple language if you have little ones.
Discussion Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the difference between a hearer and a doer? 2. Have you ever been told to do something and instead of doing it – you just heard and then forgot about it? 3. Why is a hearer of the word “deceiving” himself or herself? (V 22). (hint: following Jesus isn’t just knowing what we should do, but doing it. This is like knowing to take medicine to get better but never doing it.) 4. God’s Word shows us what we need to change (like a mirror – v 23-24). What are some things that you have done that God’s Word disagrees with? 5. If we disagree with the Bible – is it us who are wrong, or the Bible? 6. What did you learn through this lesson?
Hymn/Song	<p>Look up “Living Word” by Jeremy Camp</p> <p>V1: In this life, there is one guarantee This broken world will only leave me empty But there's a life that healed my heart And it holds firm when I'm falling apart</p> <p>Chorus: I will stand on the truth In the living word of God 'Cause every time it moves my soul And shapes my every thought It's alive in me, the very breath I breathe I'm holding on with all I've got To the living word The living word of God The living word of God</p> <p>V2: I can't survive on bread alone And I hunger and I thirst For Your words, that give me hope</p> <p>Chorus: I stand on the truth In the living word of God 'Cause every time it moves my soul And shapes my every thought</p>

	<p>It's alive in me, the very breath I breathe I'm holding on with all I've got To the living word The living word of God</p> <p>Bridge: Speak into me now Your voice is all I'm craving What a freedom I have found In the living word of God</p>
Prayer	<p><u>Confession:</u> Lord, I often know what to do – and I choose not to do it anyway. Forgive me.</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you for your Word – which is truth. Thank you that you have given us guidance in how to live and how to follow Jesus.</p> <p><u>Supplication:</u> Help us to be doers and not just hearers. We don't just want to know the right answers – we want to do the right things.</p>

Week 5, Devotional 3 – James 1:26

Activity	Source
Prayer	<u>Adoration:</u> Lord, it is humbling to think of how big you are and realize that you still think of us and love us. We praise you for that now as we look at your Word.
Scripture Reading	James 1:26.
Discussion Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verse 26 says “religious.” What is he talking about? (hint: there are all sorts of religions in the world – ours is Christianity which focuses on having a relationship with God through Jesus). 2. What does it mean to “bridle your tongue?” 3. Have you ever used your words to hurt someone else? 4. When we say a lot of cruel and hurtful things, what does it say about what we believe? 5. Everyone makes mistakes – and everyone says things they shouldn’t say sometimes. How can God help us? 6. Unlike other religions which teach us to fix ourselves, the Bible reminds us that God Himself changes us and makes us more like him. Why is that good news for us? 7. What did you learn through this lesson?
Hymn/Song	<p>Two options today: Worship song recommendation: Christ Be Magnified by Cody Carnes Song for those with little ones: “Words” by Hawk Nelson.</p> <p>V1: Were creation suddenly articulate With a thousand tongues to lift one cry Then from North to South and East to West We'd hear Christ be magnified</p> <p>V2: Were the whole Earth echoing His eminence His name would burst from sea and sky From rivers to the mountain tops We'd hear Christ be magnified</p> <p>Chorus: Oh! Christ be magnified Let His praise arise Christ be magnified in me Oh! Christ be magnified From the altar of my life Christ be magnified in me</p> <p>V3: When every creature finds its inmost melody And every human heart its native cry Oh then in one enraptured hymn of praise</p>

	<p>We'll sing Christ be magnified Oh, be lifted high, Jesus</p> <p>Chorus: Oh! Christ be magnified Let His praise arise Christ be magnified in me Oh! Christ be magnified From the altar of my life Christ be magnified in me</p> <p>Bridge: I won't bow to idols, I'll stand strong and worship You And if it puts me in the fire, I'll rejoice 'cause You're there too I won't be formed by feelings, I hold fast to what is true If the cross brings transformation then I'll be crucified with You</p> <p>'Cause death is just the doorway into resurrection life And if I join You in Your suffering, then I'll join You when You rise And when You return in glory with all the angels and the saints My heart will still be singing, my song will be the same</p>
<p>Prayer</p>	<p><u>Confession:</u> Lord, I say things that I shouldn't say. I know that we all do - but that doesn't make it right. Forgive me. Help me to use my words to build others up.</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you that you forgive us for our mistakes. Thank you that we don't have to change ourselves because, when we know Jesus, you are changing us already.</p> <p><u>Supplication:</u> God, I want to show others what you are like through the words that I say. Help me. Make me more like you.</p>

Week 5, Devotional 4 – James 1:27

Activity	Source
Prayer	<u>Adoration:</u> Lord, you care for everyone whether they are big or small – famous or unknown – rich or poor. Help us to do the same as we read your Word now.
Scripture Reading	James 1:27.
Discussion Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Last lesson, we mentioned that our “religion” is Christianity (which is focused on our relationship with God because of what Jesus did for us on the cross). Read verse 27. What does it say our “religion” is supposed to be like? 2. Who does it mention here that we should visit and care for? (hint: orphans and widows). 3. Why? (Because they are often people who don’t have another person in the home to care for them). 4. How can we help people who are lonely or just alone? Do you know anyone who lives alone who might want some encouragement? 5. Have you ever helped someone and expected nothing in return? How did that make you feel? 6. How does caring for others like this help us as well? 7. What did you learn in this lesson?
Hymn/Song	<p>Look up “Give Me Your Eyes” by Brandon Heath and follow along with the lyrics below.</p> <p>V1 Looked down from a broken sky Traced out by the city lights My world from a mile high Best seat in the house tonight</p> <p>Touch down on the cold black-top Hold on for the sudden stop Breathe in the familiar shock of confusion and chaos</p> <p>Pre-Chorus: All those people goin' somewhere, why have I never cared?</p> <p>Chorus: Give me Your eyes for just one second Give me Your eyes so I can see Everything that I keep missin' Give me Your love for humanity Give me Your arms for the broken-hearted The ones that are far beyond my reach Give me Your heart for the ones forgotten Give me Your eyes so I can see</p>

	<p>V2: Step out on the busy street See a girl and our eyes meet Does her best to smile at me To hide what's underneath</p> <p>There's a man just to her right Black suit and a bright red tie Too ashamed to tell his wife he's out of work, he's buyin' time</p> <p>Pre-Chorus: All those people goin' somewhere, why have I never cared?</p> <p>Chorus: Give me Your eyes for just one second Give me Your eyes so I can see Everything that I keep missing Give me Your love for humanity Give me Your arms for the broken-hearted The ones that are far beyond my reach Give me Your heart for the ones forgotten Give me Your eyes so I can see</p> <p>Bridge: I've been there a million times A couple million lives Just movin' past me by I swear, I never thought that I was wrong But I wanna second glance So give me a second chance To see the way You've seen the people all along</p>
<p>Prayer</p>	<p><u>Confession</u>: God, I am sometimes so concerned with myself that I don't think of others. Help me to see others the way you do. Forgive me when I look down on others or refuse to help.</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving</u>: Thank you that you have given us people to visit and care for who need friends and encouragement. You've given us so much – help us to be generous with it.</p> <p><u>Supplication</u>: Father, give us a heart for other people that matches your heart for them. Give us opportunities to help others this week and not expect anything in return.</p>