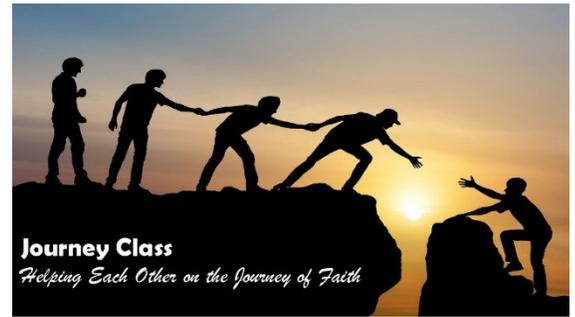


## James – Living Proof

The James continues with the practical areas of listening and doing. Sometimes we need to be quiet and listen to others. Sometimes we need to prove that we have heard God’s word and get busy doing it.



Can you think of someone in your circle of relationships that exemplifies “godliness?”

### Read James 1:19-27

Are you more likely to identify with “willing to listen and slow to speak” or more likely to identify with “quick to speak and wanting to be heard?”

In your own words, how does the James passage describe living a good or godly life?

How does anger fit in according to James?

How does the scripture today describe people who do not obey God’s Word?

How does God bless those who study and obey his teachings?

*Max Lucado describes what is like to go to a dance, and there is no music? Think about people trying to dance with no music – everybody “hearing” different beats in their mind. Everybody, while “dancing” is doing so to a different “tune” in their mind. Then a singer comes in and begins singing – no music, but the singer is giving everyone something to “connect” to and people begin dancing.*

*But, some people don’t dance – they stay seated on the sidelines, complaining that there is no music. They refused to hear the singer and they wouldn’t dance. Some dance, some don’t. To those who miss the music, the musician says “Let those who have ears to hear use them.”*

How can you have “ears to hear” God’s Word this week, especially in this time of separation, pain, and disappointment?

### Prayers...



*Being strong for each other*

### Closing Devotion:

Father, help us to hear your voice amid the manifold voices of the world. Help us to put into practice the timeless truths found in your Word. Most of all, help us remember that you have set us free, even as we may feel “locked up” by the world we are in. Thank you for your promise that when the Son sets us free, we are free indeed.