

Studies In The Book James Faith In Action!

Lesson 9

Read James 1:26 – 27

Introduction: *“James compares the tongue to a powerful rearing horse, which will take off on a wild ride if the reins are not kept taut. If you’ve ever sat on 1,500 pounds of restless bone and muscle and then hung on at full gallop, you have the idea. There are actually people who consider themselves “religious” (they are very proper in their worship) but who have galloping tongues, and thus are in a state of perpetual self-deception.”*

Pastor R. Kent Hughes

1. It would appear in James 1:26, that if I truly have a relationship with God and He is in control of my life then I should have control over my tongue. Are you in control of what you say and how you say it? Do you have control over your tongue or do you say whatever comes into your mind?
 - How has your speech changed since you have become a Christian?

 - What do the following scriptures teach you about how you should speak?
 - Proverbs 15:1- 4

 - Proverbs 17:27 – 28

 - Proverbs 21:23

- Matthew 12:34 – 37
- Ephesians 4:14 – 15, 25 & 29
- Colossians 4:6
- 1 Peter 2:1 & 3:10

2. What does the word *religious* mean to you?

- What is the difference in being *religious* verses having a relationship with God? (Compare with John 3:1 – 8)

- What are the seven warnings Jesus gave to the Pharisees and scribes about being religious according to Matthew 23:13 – 33?

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)

3. If I do not *bridle my tongue* what is the result of my *religion* according to James 1:26?

- According to Colossians 2:8 – 10, 20 – 23 what does the apostle Paul warn us against?

- How can I have an abundant life in Christ according to Colossians 3:1 – 4?

4. According to James 1:27 what is the proof of *pure and undefiled religion*?

- What did Jesus say about those who have a relationship with the Father and serve Him out of a pure heart according to Matthew 23:34 – 40?

5. What does it mean to you *to keep oneself unspotted from the world* according to James 1:27?

- According to 1 John 2:15 – 17 how can I remain *unspotted from the world*?

- How can my life glorify God according to Romans 12:1 – 2?

6. What are some of the things I can do as a man of God and servant of the King to demonstrate the love of Christ to those in need?