



3. Two keys to Growth

James 1:19-25

- James is passionate that God's people live out God's word
 - It's for Christ's glory – His brother Jesus died so you could have the Gospel
 - It's for your good – God's word restores and repairs us
- 1. Hear Christ's word v19-21**
 - v19-21 – good advice generally, but specifically about hearing God's word
 - 3 aspects of godly listening
 - a) Quick to Listen**
 - What slows your listening? Tiredness, laziness, priorities, short attention span, jumpy minds, prejudices, pick and mix listening
 - b) Slow to Speak**
 - Not always out loud – we can argue with scripture, look for loopholes, justify ourselves, whine at God
 - Stop talking and listen to God
 - c) Slow to Anger**
 - Anger hinders God's work in us, and our ability to hear God
 - 2 causes v21:
 - Ignored sin – we rage at others for sin we have!
 - Pride – we bristle at God's word
- 2. Do Christ's Word v22-25**
 - Christianity is a whole new way of life – not just about dumping sins on Jesus
 - a) Listen Carefully**
 - Look 'intently' into God's word – like Peter into Jesus' tomb – not a fleeting glance
 - Read your Bible, listen to sermons with deliberate concentration
 - Search out how it applies – don't let it wash over you.
 - b) Put it into Practice**
 - James repeatedly calls us to 'do it' v21, 23, 24, 25
 - We are not accumulators of knowledge but doers of godliness
 - Strong words for 'hearers-only' – you con yourself into thinking you are fine
 - James calls us to a continuous cycle of listening and doing v25
 - After sermon/Bible reading, ask yourself: What truth do I need to thank God for? What do I need to do as a result of hearing this?
- 3. You will resemble Christ the Word**
 - "blessed in what he does" – not because of what he does, but in the doing. 2 ways:
 - v21 – "the word which can save you" = saving us from walking in harmful ways
 - 2 Cor 3:18 – as we look in the mirror of the Word we are being transformed into the likeness of Christ. The more you respond the more you resemble him.



new life fellowship

SERVING JESUS CHRIST THE KING

www.newlifefellowship.ie - part of the reformed presbyterian church of ireland

Sunday 6th May '12

Notices

Sunday	Evening service at Day Centre	8pm
Tues	Bible Study at Mark & Judith's Study 1 in Westminster Confession of Faith - pick up a sheet	8pm
Sat 12	Ladies are invited to Breakfast with Catherine Campbell in Faughan RP church Theme: Positively Precious - Discovering what you are really worth	9.30am
Fri 25th - Sun 27th	Fellowship weekend Speaker Rev David McCullough	
Sun 27	Bready Praise Service "Running the Race - how God's song-book keeps us on track."	7pm

Christianity Explored



A 6-week course designed to let you find out the facts about Jesus, and to find answers to your questions the Bible and Christianity.

- You don't need to know anything about the Bible
- You won't be asked to read, pray or answer questions
- You will be given every opportunity to ask your own questions

If you're interested in finding out more, or having one in your home for friends to come to - speak to Mark

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Oversight elders: William Lynch 048 7139 8002 Robert Tait 9101668 Colin Tait 9147352