

HOW TO STAY ANCHORED IN A STORM

James: A Faith That Works – Part 3

James 1:17-25

(Jesus) “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV)

“We have this HOPE as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.” Hebrews 6:19 (NIV)

“God, my soul is weak from waiting for you to save me. But my hope is based on your Word.” Psalm 119:81 (GW)

HOW DO I ANCHOR MY LIFE TO THE ROCK OF GOD'S WORD?

1. TREAT GOD'S WORD AS A _____ TO ME!

“The Lord says: ‘My people, I promise to give you my Spirit and my Word. These will be my gifts to you and your families forever.’” Isaiah 59:21 (CEV)

Every good and every perfect gift comes from above. These good gifts come down from the Father of lights, who does NOT CHANGE like their shifting shadows. God chose to give us LIFE through the Word of TRUTH so we might be the most important of all the things He made.” James 1:17-18 (EXB)

5 Aspects of God's Gift

1. God's Word is _____ "Good gift"
2. God's Word is _____ "Perfect gift"
3. God's Word is _____ "Word of TRUTH"
4. God's Word is _____ "Does NOT CHANGE"
5. God's Word is _____ "God chose to GIVE us LIFE."

“Everything written in the past was written to teach us. The Scriptures give us endurance and encouragement so that we can have HOPE.” Romans 15:4 (NCV)

2. HUMBLY _____ WHATEVER GOD SAYS

"So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the message God has planted in your hearts, for it is strong enough to save your souls." James 1:21 (NLT)

3. STUDY IT & _____ !

"Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says! Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But if you keep looking intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and you continue to do this, NOT forgetting what you have learned, but doing it - then you will be BLESSED in whatever you do." James 1:22-25 (NIV)

5 CONDITIONS FOR GOD'S BLESSING

1. _____ **TO THE WORD** "Listen"
2. _____ **THE WORD** "Keep looking intently"
3. **MAKE IT A** _____ "Continue to do this"
4. _____ **THE WORD** "Not forgetting"

*"Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. **THEN** you will be prosperous and successful." Joshua 1:8 (NIV)*

5. _____ ! "Do what it says"

ACTION PLAN: His Word First Word, His Word Last Word.

To make reading the Bible a habit, put an open Bible by your bedside to practice *His Word First Word, His Word Last Word*. Before you get out of bed, read one chapter from James, and before you go to sleep read another portion of scripture.

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