

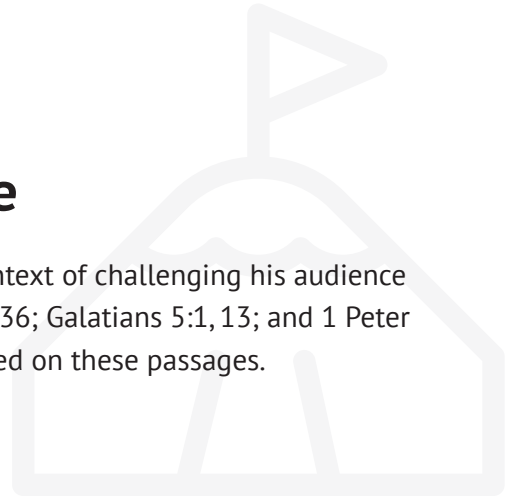
SUMMARY | We are commanded to not just be people who hear the word, but also people who live it out. But what does that mean? What does it mean to be a “doer” of the word? Ultimately, being a “doer” of the word is not a command to relapse back into the overwhelming, exhausting, and impossible Law of Moses. It is an invitation to live a lifestyle that reflects the transforming and freeing message of Christ.

This Week’s Discussion Questions

1. The book of James is considered the “wisdom literature” of the New Testament. How does this inform the way we should read the book of James?
2. How does the context of James 1:17–21 inform our understanding of James 1:22? How is “the word” understood in these verses? (Hint: it’s not a reference to the Bible.)
3. What does it mean that God implants the word of truth in our hearts?
4. How many times do the words “gift” or “giving” show up in James 1:17–24? What is a gift? Can you earn a gift? How does this inform our understanding of what it means to be a “doer of the word,” which is first gifted to us?
5. What does the term “law of liberty” mean? (v. 25 ESV). Why does James use this idea in a section of verses describing what it means to be a “doer of the word”?

Challenge

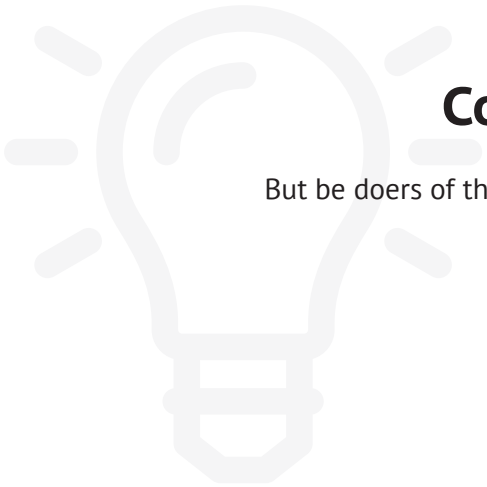
James references the “law of liberty” within the context of challenging his audience to become “doers of the word.” Read John 8:31–32, 36; Galatians 5:1, 13; and 1 Peter 2:16 and define the “law of liberty” based on these passages.



Commit To Memory

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

James 1:22 ESV



Prayer

Lord, fill us to overflowing with the message of hope, love, and mercy offered to us through Christ, so that we can overflow as doers of the word and not hearers only.

Amen.

