

How To Be Blessed By The Bible

Working Faith #3-10

January 15, 2011

But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it--he will be blessed in what he does.

James 1:25 (NIV)

Three steps to being blessed by the Bible.

Step #1- Receive God's Word.

humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

James 1:21 (NIV)

How do I prepare to receive God's word?

- **Be quiet...** (v.19a) ... be quick to listen, slow to speak...

God says, Be quiet and know that I am God...

Psalm 46:10 (NCV)

- **Be calm...** (v.19b)...and slow to become angry...

... anger will not help you live the right kind of life God wants.

James 1:20 (NCV)

When my heart was sad and I was angry,²² I was senseless and stupid. I acted like an animal toward you. **Psalm 73:21-22 (NCV)**

- **Be clean...** (v.21) Therefore, get rid of all moral filth...

Get rid of all that's wrong in your life inside and out.

James 1:21 (LB)

- **Be compliant.** (v.21) ...accept the word planted in you

Step #2- Reflect on God's Word.

Those who hear God's teaching and do nothing are like people who look at themselves in a mirror.²⁴ They see their faces and then go away and quickly forget what they looked like.

James 1:23-24 (NCV)

But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it-- he will be blessed in what he does.

James 1:25 (NIV)

For the word of God is full of living power. It is sharper than the sharpest knife, cutting deep into our innermost thoughts and desires. It exposes us for what we really are.

Hebrews 4:12 (NLT)

How do I reflect on God's word?

- **Read it.** (v.25) *But the man who looks intently...*

I will study your commandments and reflect on your ways.

Psalm 119:15 (NLT)

- **Review it.** (v.25) ...and continues to do this...

- Meditation is not **clearing my mind**, but **filling my mind**.

Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. **Psalm 119:97 (NIV)**

With all my heart I want your blessings...⁵⁹ I pondered the direction of my life, and I turned to follow your statutes. **Psalm 119:58-59 (NLT)**

- **Retain it.** (v.25) ...not forgetting what he has heard...

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Psalms 119:11 (NIV)

Step #3- Respond to God's Word.

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. **James 1:22 (NIV)**

Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.

James 4:17 (NLT)

Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

John 13:17 (NIV)