



new life fellowship

Sermon: A Faith that Works Obedience

Speaker: **Sherin Swift – Connections & Equipping Pastor**

Scriptures: **James 1:19-25**

Listening and Doing

19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. 21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

Sermon Summary:

We may have a lot of unpleasant experiences associated with the word obedience, but following Jesus means obeying his commands. This Sunday, Pastor Sherin continues our Practical Faith series focusing on how our faith transforms our lives through obedience.

Sermon Questions:

1. James Baldwin says, “I can’t believe what you say because I see what you do.” What phrases did you hear growing up about letting your actions align with your words?
2. What phrases and metaphors does James use in this passage to encourage believers to respond to what God’s word says? How do they impact you?
3. Pastor Sherin shared from the Scripture text that: “Freedom is found through obedience” (v. 25). Do you believe this is true? Why or why not?
4. How often do you spend time reading and meditating on Scripture? Is it a regular practice or do you struggle to make spending time in God’s word a priority?
5. What small step can you take this week to start or restart cultivating a rhythm of reading and meditating on God’s word? When you do, reflect on how you can put those words into action.
6. Consider doing a Scripture meditation on Psalm 1:1-3 like Lectio Divina with your small group or individually (see appendix).