

## WEEK 2

### ***Growth Group Opener:***

**How would you describe your temper: short fuse to an explosion, short fuse to a bang snap firecracker, long fuse to a match flare, long fuse to an atomic bomb? Explain.**

### **Read James 1:19-27**

What are the main themes of what James is teaching here?

James' words fly in the face of our fast-paced modern society. What things does he detail that need to be slow in our lives? Which of these is the biggest struggle for you?

After we read God's word, in contrast, what should we be quick to do?

How can this triad of quick-slow-slow put us in a better space to receive truth from God?

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James describes the word of God as the “perfect law of liberty” or “the perfect law that gives freedom.” Though it seems contradictory, how is this phrase an accurate description, and how might it be hard to accept?

What specific items does James list as being characteristic of true and false religion?

Which is harder to put into practice for you: the restraint or taking action? Why?

In the context of our current world, how might this week’s passage apply to how we interact with social media, how we involve ourselves in politics, and how we interact with people in our lives that we disagree with?

What do we learn about God in this passage?

What is one way you can more closely follow v.22 this week?

**Prayer:**

Father, thank you for your goodness, your patience, and your unending love. Help me to pattern my thoughts and behavior after your heart by being slow when I should be slow, but always quick to do good, and to obey your word. In the name of Jesus, amen.

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