

Doer of the Word: Faith in Action
Spring 2021
Pastor Adam Pilota



OBEDIENCE IS ACTION

Session 2
Hearing and Doing the Word of God



ANLI
Bridging the gap leadership

Key Scripture Jas 1:22-25

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. ²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

Instructional Overview

Big Ideas

- Believers will face holy trials and temptations because God intends both to deepen our faith.
- Scripture in Jas 1:5-27 and 2:13 teaches the believer how to respond to temptations (trials) by humbly receiving God’s Word, constantly remembering it, and willfully obeying it.

Essential Questions

- How does faith influence the Christ follower as a doer of the Word?
- What attitudes inspire faith?
- How does the believer respond to temptations?

Lesson Main Idea

Lesson Two Preview

In last week’s lesson, we learned (1) faith (pistis) involves a consistent commitment to the belief that Jesus incarnated as the Messiah, without it faith becomes meaningless; (2) Genuine faith in results in the expression of works, such as faith produces patience; (3) believers will face holy trials to deepen our faith; and exegeting Scripture through keywords.

During session two, we’ll build on how to face trials with proper attitudes and responses. This session will focus on (1) depending on God’s wisdom in responding to temptations (Jas 1:5-8), (2) humility and surrender of will (1:9-11), handling temptation (vv. 12-15), considering God’s goodness (vv.16-18), receiving and doing the Word (vv. 19-26), and practicing God’s Word by avoiding favoritism (2:1-13). Additionally, we will continue with exegeting scripture by uncovering keywords through in context.

Syllabus quick review, five-minute, illustrated sermon, sign-up sheet during break

Group Reflection

Directions:

- Reread and reflect on Jas 1:2-4 and Rom 5:3-4 as individuals
- Underline the keywords in Jas 1:2-4 from last week’s lesson.
- Next, answer the prompts below on chart paper in your group. When finished, post the chart paper on the side wall.
- Your teacher will call on the groups to respond.

Prompts:

- (1) What do the keywords tell you trials can accomplish in the life of a believer?
Explain why, back up your response with Scripture.
- (2) Oftentimes, theologians call temptations as holy trials. Does God allow or send trials? Why?

Jas 1:2-4 (KJV)

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; ³ Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. ⁴ But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Notes:

Attitudes that Faith Inspires: Group Exegesis: Jas 1:5-18**Directions:**

- Key words for this week focus on (1) wisdom (Jas 1:5-8); (2) lowly/rich (1:9-11); (3) Tempted/Temptation (vv. 12-15); (4) err/gift vv.16-18).
- Work together in four assigned groups using chart paper. See the following pages for group assignments.
- Title each paragraph.
- Write (1) the highlighted keyword + transliteration; (2) gloss definition + Strong's number, and (3) then the context definition. Then, answer the life application questions.
- Before starting your exegesis and life application exercise, the teacher will go over the sample.
- Then in your table group, assign a scribe to write the information and a reporter to present the information to the class. Another person should keep track of time.
- Post your chart paper as soon as you finish the exercise.
- The teacher will have each team reporter report out.

How to Title a Passage

Bible versions title passages sometimes the same, other times differently. It depends on the version emphasis. Either way, the passage title announces its content to the reader. Titling a passage on one's own provides a deeper understanding of the Scripture passage because it gives a deeper perspective when interpreting text. In turn, understanding results in better interpretation and application. Consider how one might title Jas 1:2-4 and the differences in emphasis.

1. What did the text mean to the biblical audience?
2. What theological principal does the text hold?
3. Does the paragraph give any clues such as general-to-specific, questions and answers, dialogue, purpose statement, means to accomplish something, actions (roles of people or God), or tone?

Title Examples

² My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; ³ Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. ⁴ But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing" (Jas 1:2-4)

(1) What did the text mean to the biblical audience? (Jas 1:2-4)

Command to Respond to Trials of Faith with Joy
Command to Let Patience Have Her Perfect Work

(2) What theological principal does the text hold?

God Tries Faith in Christ to Perfect It with Patience and Completeness

(3) General-to-Specific

Patience in Trials of Faith Produces Christian Maturity

(4) Purpose Statement (that, in order that, so that introduce a purpose statement)

That You May Be Perfect and Complete, Lacking Nothing

(5) Means to Accomplish Something

God Accomplishes His Purposes Through Our Trials
Believers Must Practice Spiritual Toughness in Troubled Times

(6) Actions: Roles of People or God

God Maturing His Children in Him and Growing Them into His Likeness

Adapted from: Duvall, J. S. & Hays (2005). *Grasping God's Word*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

How to Write a Context Definition

An in-depth context definition fleshes out a full meaning by including any relevant information from the chapter and book, cross-references the definition with supporting Scripture, and sometimes includes relevant background information. Remember, Scripture builds meaning precept-upon-precept, line-upon-line. Thus, look deep keeping to the word defined.

Faith's Impact: Activity 3-2

Activity 3 Exegesis Chart Example (KJV)	
Jas 1:2-4	
<p>²My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; ³ Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.⁴ But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.</p>	
Title the Paragraph	A Command to Respond to Trials of Faith with Joy
Keyword + Transliteration	Faith <i>pistis</i>
Gloss Definitions + Strong's Number	faith—of God, meaning faith in, on, or towards God (<i>Key Word Dictionary</i> , G4102)
Context Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith denotes fidelity to the conviction or belief that Jesus is the Messiah, through Whom we obtain eternal salvation in the Kingdom-- (www.biblestudytools.com/lexicons/greek/kjv/pistis.html)—Of God and the Lord Jesus Christ (Jas 1:1) • The pronoun “your” before faith refers to second person plural. For that reason, “your faith” may point not only to the individual person, but also to the entire community of believers James addressed. Thus, the beliefs held of faith encompassed the local assembly and Body of Christ. • “Knowing this” in the beginning of verse four connects and joins faith to the command from the prior verse “count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations.” Thus, the word faith forms part of the exhortation. • God will deepen faith in the Lord Jesus Christ by producing patience (1:3b) and maturity/completeness (v. 4) to live a lifestyle of faith. • In Galatians 2:20, a cross reference to Jas 1:3, Paul wrote, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” Christ sets free from the Law the person who dies with Him in baptism. By His resurrection, He raises the one who believes in Him by faith in

	Christ. He gives that faith as a gift of grace to the believer.
<p>Life Application</p> <p>(1) Identify the attitude that faith produces</p> <p>(2) Contrast it with the attitude of those who do not maintain a living trust in God</p>	<p>(1) Identify the attitude that faith produces. The word worketh means produce or result in. When one can count it all joy, then faith produces patience.</p> <p>(2) Contrast it with the attitude of those who do not maintain a living trust in God. The believer who does not maintain all joy during temptations cannot stand in the divers temptations one faces. Since all joy extends beyond gladness, happiness, or pleasure indicating nothing but joy, the person who displays the opposite attitude shows no, little, some, or pretend joy. A diminished degree of joy comes from discontentment in the situation stemming from distrust and disobedience of the Lord for self-reliance from the Lord. Further, since all joy involves more than an emotion, the believer only can obtain contentment from abiding in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Thus, the believer additionally may lack a desire for intimacy with the Lord who only gives that kind of joy.</p>

Activity 3 Exegesis Chart—Group 1

Jas 1:5-8

⁵ If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.⁶ But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. ⁷ For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.⁸ A double minded man is unstable in all his ways” (KJV).

⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ *he is* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways” (NKJV)

Title the Paragraph	
Keyword + Transliteration	
Gloss Definitions + Strong's Number	
Context Definition	
<p>Life Application</p> <p>(1) Identify the attitude that faith produces</p> <p>(2) Contrast it with the attitude of those who do not maintain a living trust in God</p>	

Activity 3 Exegesis Chart – Group 2

Jas 1:9-11

⁹ Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted: ¹⁰ But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. ¹¹ For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways” (KJV).

“Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation, ¹⁰ but the rich in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. ¹¹ For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits” (NKJV).

<p>Title the Paragraph</p>	
<p>Keyword + Transliteration</p>	
<p>Gloss Definitions + Strong's Number</p>	
<p>Context Definition</p>	
<p>Life Application (1) Identify the attitude that faith produces (2) Contrast it with the attitude of those who do not maintain a living trust in God</p>	

Activity 3 Exegesis Chart -- Group 3

Jas 1:12-15

"¹² Blessed is the man that endureth **temptation**: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. ¹³ Let no man say when he is **tempted**, I am **tempted** of God: for God cannot be **tempted** with evil, neither tempteth he any man: ¹⁴ But every man is **tempted**, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. ¹⁵ Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (KJV).

Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death" (NKJV).

Title the Paragraph	
Keyword + Transliteration	
Gloss Definitions + Strong's Number	
Context Definition	
<p>Life Application</p> <p>(1) Identify the attitude that faith produces</p> <p>(2) Contrast it with the attitude of those who do not maintain a living trust in God</p>	

Activity 3 Exegesis Chart – Group 4

Jas 1:16-18

“¹⁶Do not **err**, my beloved brethren. ¹⁷Every **good gift** and every **perfect gift** is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. ¹⁸Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures” (KJV).

“Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. ¹⁸Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures” (NKJV).

Title the Paragraph	
Keyword + Transliteration	
Gloss Definitions + Strong’s Number	
Context Definition	
<p>Life Application</p> <p>(1) Identify the attitude that faith produces</p> <p>(2) Contrast it with the attitude of those who do not maintain a living trust in God</p>	

Ten-Minute Break

Scriptural Analysis**Directions:**

- Students should remain in their same table with four groups
- The teacher will assign one of the two passages: Jas 1:19-26 and 2:1-13.
- Please, read the passage through carefully on your own highlighting the key words and underlining main ideas during the allotted time.
- Then, come together as a group and complete the following for your passage
 1. First, write the key words with their transliteration, Strong's number, gloss and context definitions. Remember the historical background of the text and keep your analysis in proper context.
 2. Second, provide at least three cross-reference scriptures (from other books in the Bible) that support your key words and understanding of the passage.
 3. Write your presentation on your chart paper.

Jas 1:19-26 (Groups 1 and 3)**Doers—Not Hearers Only**

¹⁹Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:²⁰For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.²¹Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

²²But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. ²³For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:²⁴For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

²⁵But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.²⁶If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

Activity 4 Scriptural Analysis Cont'd.

Jas 2:1-13 (Groups 2 and 4)

Beware of Personal Favoritism

¹My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.² For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; ³And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: ⁴Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts? ⁵Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? ⁶But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? ⁷Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called? ⁸If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: ⁹But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.
¹⁰For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. ¹¹For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.¹² So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

Questions

- What role does God's Word play in our pursuit of Christlikeness?
- How does faith influence the Christ follower as a doer of the Word?
- What attitudes inspire faith?
- How does the believer respond to temptations?
- How can you have ears to hear God's Word this week and then do it?
- What pressure does culture put on us today to disobey or disregard God's Word?

Closing

Doer of the Word, Spring 2021— Homework, Session 2

Homework—Due April 15, 2021

- E-mail your homework to Pastor Adam.
- You will find all class materials on the ANLI website (www.allnationsleadershipinstitute.com) under the Student Login on the Student Services page. Password: ANLIstudent. Download the exit slip and exegesis chart from the website. Do not type your own template.
- Following APA format and SBL scripture citation. See ANLI Writing Guide for more information.
- Combine the exegesis and prompt under one cover.
- Late homework will result in the lowering of final grade by one letter. If absent, you still must turn in your homework by the due date.
- Include stapled cover sheet. Cover sheet should state the following only starting half-way down the paper:
- NOTE: You must pass this class with a “C” or better to be blessed as an Elder.

Doer of the Word, Week Two

Your Name

All Nations Leadership Institute

Part 1. Readings

- Reread the verses studied in session two. For session three read and study Matt 25:31-46; Luke 19:1-10; Eph 2:8-10; and Jas 2:14-26.

Part 2. Exegesis (Posted on ANLI website on the Student Services page. Go to the student login, and then enter password: ANLIstudent)

Define its key words or phrases in listed on the chart from this week’s lesson on Jas 1:5-18 as you did last week: wisdom/faith (Jas 1:5-8); low degree, rich, low (1:12-15); err, good, gift, perfect, gift (vv. 16-18). Also, add the passage title and answer the questions. Name the reference tool you used for the gloss and context definitions. You may research words in the BLB.org, BibleHub.com, and/or Vine’s Expository Dictionary online. Bullet the definitions.

However, we expect you will develop your context definitions more fully since you have more time to do so at home.

Briefly, answer the questions. Cite with Scripture from the passage. Make sure you write the transliteration after the key word and Strong's number after the gloss definition. The homework exegesis assignment gives you independent practice for what you completed in class.

Part 3: Prompt (500 Words—Begin on a separate sheet)

Write a response to the below prompt.

Prompt:

How can you have ears to hear God's Word this week, and then do it? Explain. Use the passages from this lesson to support your response.

Part 4. Illustrated sermon. Begin the rough draft of your illustrated, word-for-word sermon due session four. See the syllabus as well as Pastor Adam's sermon development sheet for information.

