

## READY TO RECEIVE

James 1:19-21

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at [www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons](http://www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons).

### WANT MORE CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY?

- Check out this free **Verse-by-Verse Bible Commentary**, available through [www.StudyLight.org](http://www.StudyLight.org).
- Watch an **overview video of the Book of James**, available from [www.BibleProject.com](http://www.BibleProject.com).

### CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Talk about a time when you felt unprepared for a test, an interview, an event, a meeting, etc. What happened? What did you do the next time you were in a similar situation?

### APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, **Pastor Jason gave us five ways to be ready to receive truth from the Lord.**

### How To Prepare Your Heart Before You Open Your Bible:

#### 1. Quick to hear (James 1:19)

- In your own words, how would you describe the importance of “being quick to hear” when approaching the Bible?
- How can you practice “active listening” when you’re diving into the Bible or listening to a sermon?
- *Prayer: Lord, I’m ready to listen. Speak to me through your Word.*

#### 2. Slow to speak (James 1:19)

- Are you the type of person that tends to talk a lot, or not? Share some examples with your group.
- Do you find yourself “interrupting God” with your thoughts or words when reading your Bible?
- *Prayer: Lord, calm my soul and quiet my mouth. Let me hear You in the silence.*

#### 3. Slow to anger (James 1:19-20)

- Pastor Jason listed a few “uncomfortable truths” in the Bible. How do you usually react when you are confronted with a truth you don’t like or you don’t agree with?
- When was the last time you made changes in your life because of truth you saw in Scripture?
- *Prayer: Lord, I’ve sinned against you. Forgive me. Prepare my heart to accept Your truth.*

#### 4. Put away sin (James 1:21)

- How does the act of confessing and repenting of sin help prepare you to receive truth?
- Are there areas in your life you need to repent of right now? Are you holding on to specific sin?
- *Prayer: Lord, I repent completely. I hold nothing back. Fill me now with your truth.*

#### 5. Welcome the truth (James 1:21)

- James uses the illustration of a seed of truth being planted in our hearts. When did you first hear the truth of the gospel? How did you respond?
- What would it look for you to open your door wide to welcome truth into your heart? Are you willing to allow truth to take up residence in your home? Are there parts of your life you don’t want to be seen, or are you eager to open up all the doors, cupboards, and closets to the truth?
- *Prayer: Lord, the door is open for You. I welcome Your Truth.*

### PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that your group would be ready to receive truth from God’s Word and from each other.

