

## “The Buffet”

Series: “The Breakfast Bunch”  
Part (3 of 3)

**Open:** What type of books do you prefer to read: fiction, how-to, biography, historical, etc.?

**Explore:** Read James 1:21-25.

1. What should a Christian be “clearing” out of their life in order to make room for more of God’s word (vs. 21)?
2. What is the relationship between hearing and doing God’s word (vs. 22)? How would you rate your ability/willingness to put the truth of the Bible into action in your life?
3. How did James describe a person who does not do what the Bible says (vs. 23-24)? What does this illustration really mean?
4. What incredible promise did James give to anyone who studies God’s word and puts it into practice (vs. 25)?

**Reflect:** Review key points from the lesson before answering the questions.

1. More copies of the Bible have been sold than any other book in the world. How were you first introduced to the Bible?
2. Bible study can be divided into three phases: Observation, Interpretation, and Application. How would you describe the difference between each phase? Ultimately, what is the most important phase of Bible reading?
3. What are common obstacles/distractions that keep people from spending more time reading the Bible? What suggestions would you give to someone who was interested in hearing God’s word throughout the day?
4. From the lesson review, the three reasons to make the Bible part of your daily routine. Which of the three reasons has been true for you? Can you think of other benefits?
5. What is one thing you will do this week to spend more time in God’s word? It could be reading daily, listening to an audio Bible in the car, or sitting down with notes from the weekend lesson.

**Apply:** Live it.

**As a group:** Make the commitment to read through one book of the Bible together. James has 5 chapters or a longer book like John has 21. Encourage everyone to read 1 chapter a day and report what God is saying to them through email.

**On your own:** Read one chapter from Proverbs each day (Old Testament) and one chapter from the book of Matthew (New Testament). Proverbs has 31 chapters and Matthew has 28.

**Note:** Your group can always go through *The Bible’s Big Picture* DVD curriculum in order to gain confidence using and understanding the Bible (see the New Hope Bookstore).

## Listening Guide Notes

<sup>[8]</sup> “The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes. <sup>[9]</sup> The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous. <sup>[10]</sup> They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. <sup>[11]</sup> By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.” –**Psalm 19:8-11 (p. 359)**

**The goal is to observe, interpret and apply.**

### 3 Reasons to Make God’s Word a Main Part of Your Day:

#### 1. It helps us avoid temptation.

<sup>[1]</sup> “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, <sup>[2]</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. <sup>[3]</sup> The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.’ <sup>[4]</sup> Jesus answered, ‘It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’’ <sup>[5]</sup> The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>[6]</sup> And he said to him, ‘I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. <sup>[7]</sup> If you worship me, it will all be yours.’ <sup>[8]</sup> Jesus answered, ‘It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’’ <sup>[9]</sup> The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ‘If you are the Son of God,’ he said, ‘throw yourself down from here. <sup>[10]</sup> For it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; <sup>[11]</sup> they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’’ <sup>[12]</sup> Jesus answered, ‘It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’’ <sup>[13]</sup> When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.” –**Luke 4:1-13 (p. 717-718)**

#### 2. It gives us direction.

<sup>[1]</sup> “Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. <sup>[2]</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>[3]</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>[4]</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.”  
–**John 10:1-4 (p. 748)**

- A – It keeps God in front and leading
- B – It keeps us humble and following

### **3. It gives us and others hope.**

<sup>[1]</sup> “Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. <sup>[2]</sup> By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. <sup>[3]</sup> For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>[4]</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures... <sup>[9]</sup> For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>[10]</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.” **–1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 9-10 (p. 801)**