

Applying God's Word

James 1:22-25

This passage begins and ends with references to the two options we have in how we respond to the Word of God: just hear it or hear it and do it. List each descriptive word which is attached to "hearers." Explain why these things are true of those who hear but do not do.

The person who hears but does not obey God's Word is compared to someone who looks into the mirror, sees her messy hair, then walks away without combing it. This is true. When have you heard God's Word, realized something needed to change in your life, but did not follow through with action?

Hebrews 4.12 says, *"For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."* Since God has chosen to use His Word to have this place in our relationship with Him, it is essential that we do not hear it then turn away and ignore it. How do you respond to these truths? Tell God here.

When have you been pierced to the heart by God's Word and responded? When has the Lord shown you thoughts and intentions of your heart, which were opposed to Him, and you repented and changed? Fine work! What steps did you take to become a doer of the Word?

What are the incredible results for the person who abides in the Word, obeys it, chooses to do what it says?

What are 3 things which, if they became patterns in your life, would result in you being a much more consistent doer of the Word? Resolve to pursue this way of life which would so greatly honor your Lord. Find someone who will pray for you and check on your progress.
