**JAMES**

**Lesson 2: Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak**

### JAMES 1:19-27 (NLT)

19Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. 20Human anger does not produce the righteousnessGod desires. 21So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

22But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. 23For if you listen to the word and don’t obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. 24You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. 25But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don’t forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

26If you claim to be religious but don’t control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless. 27Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.

**QUICK TO LISTEN, SLOW TO SPEAK**

**1. God wants you to listen well**

**2. God wants you to speak well**

**3. God wants you to live well**

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

**1.** *Read Proverbs 17:27-28. What do these verses mean? How can you put truths of this passage into practice?*

**2.** *Read Ephesians 4:25-27. What lessons can you learn from this passage?*

**3.** *Often when we are angry, we have a tough time thinking and acting like Jesus. Why?*

***4.*** *Read Ecclesiastes 5:2. How do the words of this verse fit with what we have been talking about today?*

1. *What obstacles can get in the way of humbly living out the message of “big ears, little mouth, God’s Word?”*

**FOR KEEPS [MEMORY VERSE]**

*A truly wise person uses few words; a person with understanding is even-tempered (Proverbs 17:27 NLT).*