

Stepping into the Blessing

Text: John 2:1-5

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

² *Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.*

³ *And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine.”*

⁴ *Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.”*

⁵ *His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.”*

Topic: Listening & Doing

INTRODUCTION:

Mary shared a powerful and timeless point in verse 5, Whatever He (Jesus) says to you, do it! God has raised-up mothers to point us toward obedience to the voice of Jesus! If you are not from a Christian home the Word covers this also,

- Titus 2:1-4

But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine:

² *that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience;*

³ *the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—*

⁴ *that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,*

There is safety found in learning to listen to the Holy Spirit and obeying His voice!

I. BLESSING FLOWS OUT OF AN OBEDIENT LIFE!
(James 1:19 & 20)

So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;

²⁰ for the wrath of man (the anger of man) does not produce the righteousness of God.

- These words contain the keys to a life of abundant blessing:

A. WE MUST BE IN A HURRY TO LISTEN!

- In the Book of Revelation chapters 2 & 3, God reveals His heart for His Churches:

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

- Why do we listen so intently?
 1. We need to hear exactly what is being said by those around us! So often we don't listen so we really don't hear the whole story!
 2. We need to hear what God is saying to us about what is going on around us!
 3. We also need to hear because God releases faith through our ears!
(Romans 10:17)

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

B. WE MUST BE HESITATE TO SPEAK!

- Why is this so important? Because of the power behind our words!
 1. What leaves our mouths enters the atmosphere and affects our world!
 2. We cannot release words until we know exactly what we are going to say!
 3. Dangerous words are swift words!

C. WE MUST BE HESITATE TO ACCEPT ANGER!

- Anger released quickly is always attached to emotion driven responses!
 1. When emotion controls us the Holy Spirit has to take a back seat!
 2. Our emotions cannot be trusted to do the righteous thing!
 3. Sudden anger can open the door to long lasting pain!

II. **BLESSING FLOWS FROM AN UNDERSTANDING OF GOD'S HOLY WORD!** (V.21)

Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

- A. IF WE DESIRE TO RECEIVE THE POWER OF THE WORD WE MUST LAY ASIDE THOSE THINGS THAT CONTRADICT HIS WORD! (V.21A)

Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness...

So get rid of all uncleanness and the rampant outgrowth of wickedness, (The Amplified Bible)

The Message says, so throw all spoiled virtue and cancerous evil in the garbage.

- B. THIS RELEASE OF THE WORLD PREPARES US TO RECEIVE THE BLESSINGS OF THE WORD! (V.21B)

...and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

1. Notice that James speaks about the Word in 2 ways:
2. We are to receive the Word with meekness! Why meekness?
 - a) We are afflicted with a fatal condition known as pride!
 - b) For the Word to truly enter into our lives, we must adopt the attitude of meekness!

- c) Meekness says to God, speak Lord, I'm listening!
3. The Implanted word is able to save our souls! What does it mean to receive an implanted or engraved word?
- a) The Word is not something that grows from us or is a part of us!
- b) The Word of God is truly God's Word shaped and fashioned by His hand revealing His nature!
- c) We have to allow the Holy Spirit to engraft or implant God's Word onto our limited and carnal bodies! But the result is salvation!

III. ONCE WE ACCEPT HIS WORD INTO OUR HEARTS, WE MUST THEN LIVE IT OUT! (V.22-25)

²² *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.*

- Points to remember concerning the living out of God's Word:
- These points will enable you to move into a place of new and exciting blessing and abundance:

A. THE PRACTICE OF HEARING ONLY IS THE TRUEST FORM OF DECEPTION! (V.22)

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

B. DOING ALLOWS US TO BREAK AWAY FROM THE CYCLE OF
POWERLESS LIVING! (V.23 & 24)

*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.*

C. DOING THE WORD OPENS THE DOOR TO A LIFE OF
CONTINUAL AND CONSISTANT BLESSING! (V.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.*

1. We go to the Word and continue there!
2. We learn the Word and then do the Word!
3. This lifestyle will be blessed in what it does! What a promise!