

CHAPTER

1
I

Hear it, then do it

James 1:1–27 · 27 verses · Song: “Count It Joy”

The picture: A man glances at a bronze mirror and walks away from it; a second man kneels and keeps looking into the open scroll.

PICTURE WORD

Mirror

THE CHAPTER IN BRIEF

*on't just look in the mirror: do what you see.***Remember it:** ONE face in ONE mirror. Chapter 1: look, then do.

MEMORY VERSE

But be doers of the word, and not only hearers who deceive themselves.

James 1:22 · the author's translation

GREEK WORD

ποιηται

“doers” · verse 22

In James: four times, in 2 chapters

The word comes from the verb “to do, to make,” and it also gave English the word “poet,” the one who makes. James wants the word not only heard but done (1:22–25). The hearer looks in the mirror and forgets; the doer keeps looking, acts on what he sees, and is blessed in what he does.

HOW THE CHAPTER MOVES

1–4 Count trials as joy: testing produces endurance.

5–8 Ask God for wisdom, and do not waver.

9–11 The lowly and the rich: the wildflower fades.

12–18 Testing is not tempting; every good gift is from above.

19–27 Quick to listen; doers of the word; pure religion.

FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

v. 10–11 ← Isa 40:6–8 The grass withers and the flower falls.

MY NOTES

**Listen.** Hear James 1 sung in the **James by Heart** app, or free at ispress.de/james/songs/1.**The song: “Count It Joy.”** Every verse of the chapter is sung.

Joy in trials

Ask God for wisdom

Every good gift from above

Doers, not only hearers

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Don't just look in the _____ : _____ what you _____ .

CHECK YOURSELF

1. How should you count it when you run into trials?

☐ (A) As punishment

☐ (B) Nothing but joy

☐ (C) As bad luck

☐ (D) As a sign God is angry

2. What does the testing of your faith produce?

☐ (A) Endurance

☐ (B) Doubt

☐ (C) Riches

☐ (D) Anger

3. Someone who hears the word but does not do it is like whom?

☐ (A) A farmer waiting for rain

☐ (B) A ship with no rudder

☐ (C) A man who looks at his face in a mirror and forgets it

☐ (D) A wave driven by the wind

TALK IT OVER

1. How can a trial be counted as joy without pretending it does not hurt?

2. James says to be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger. Which of the three is hardest for you?

3. What is one thing you have heard from God's word that you have not yet done?

IN YOUR OWN WORDS: WHAT DOES JAMES 1 TEACH?

☐ I listened to the song

☐ I can say what it teaches

☐ I can say 1:22 by heart

☐ I know the picture word

Answers Blanks: mirror · do · see · Check yourself: 1. B (v. 2) · 2. A (v. 3) · 3. C (vv. 23-24)