

Open the Light

*For God, who commanded the light
to shine out of darkness,
hath shined in our hearts,
to give the light of the knowledge
of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 4:6*

*Character Building
In A Relationship with God*

*He that believeth on me, as **the scripture hath said**, out
of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. John 7:38*

Study 6

Study, as much as time allows, each day, with prayer. Please, do not rush through the study; remember, Bible study is about getting to know God and His love for you.

Be Swift to Hear, Slow to Speak, Slow to Wrath.

Always before opening God's word, pray and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to open your heart for a true understanding of His Words, in the Name of our Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

“be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.” James 1:19.

Open your Bible and read James 1:19. Then write down the verse on the lines below.

James 1:19.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear**, slow to speak, slow to wrath: James 1:19.

The word **swift** in this verse is an adverb, meaning swiftly or quickly. (Collins online Dictionary)

Strong's Concordance: - Of uncertain affinity; fleet, that is, (figuratively) prompt or ready; - swift.

The word **hear** is a verb (an action word).

Strong's Concordance: - A primary verb; to *hear* (in various senses): - give (in the) audience (of), come (to the ears), ([shall]) hear (-er, -ken), be noised, be reported, understand.

Some Synonyms to the word hear = listen to, heed, attend to, give attention to, hearken to, hark to, be all ears for, learn, discover, find out, understand, pick up, gather, be informed.

(References from the Strong's Concordance, Collins online Dictionary)

We all know how to move swiftly when we need to. In the following, made up stories, are examples, that help us see that we all know how to move swiftly.

If we heard a motor car roaring and a horn beeping, we would swiftly look up. Then in looking up we could see that a car was coming straight at us, we would swiftly do our best to get out of the way.

Now, if we were in a crowded place and we were getting our money out of our wallet to pay for something, and someone taps us on the shoulder and proceeds to tell us that we just dropped a hundred-dollar bill on the floor. We would be swift to hear what was said to us and swift to look for it and even swifter to pick it up off the ground once we lay sight on the hundred-dollar bill.

Now, say we were on our way to work. We decided to check our mailbox on the way out the door. We have a letter from our bank telling us that their computer system had an error and has wiped their records of how much money we had entrusted with them. They requested us to move swiftly to prove how much we had entrusted with them. Now, we know there had been well over \$977,000.00, as this amount was left to us in a Will, and we had not used any of it yet. We put the full amount into the bank for safe keeping, with the other savings that We had.

Now upon reading this letter what would we have done next?

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Write down what you think your response would be to such a letter as this.

I am quite sure you have written something down in a similar fashion of, ... you would have taken the day off work. You would have quickly followed their instructions, by collecting all evidence needed. Then you would have gone swiftly, down to the bank, long before closing, that very same day. I'm sure you would have done your best to get the correct amount of money returned to you, the amount you had entrusted with the bank.

Now, in these made-up examples, we can see that there was a lot of action, doing, and moving, to have a result for the best outcome in the circumstances. This is what God wants for us. We are to be swift to hear and act upon what we hear, as we learn of the Holy Word; **But swift to hear what?**

To act upon instructions, when we are warned regarding a matter, a matter which will improve or help our circumstances in life, which will achieve a good result; is a good thing to do.

This is what God is asking of us here. He wants us to hear Him, and to act swiftly upon what we hear regarding His instructions that we might have life, and that we might have it more abundantly. See John 10:10. For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified... Romans 2:13.

God has given to us a letter. The letter is called the Holy Scriptures, which are the words of the Bible. His Word instructs us for our good, that we may prosper in this life. They lead us and prepare us for the promised eternal life. This life is for those that follow Him, "And **keep** the charge of the LORD thy God, to **walk in** his ways, to **keep** his statutes, and **his commandments**, and **his judgments**, and **his testimonies**, as it is written

in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:" 1 Kings 2:3. **Observe and hear** all these words which I command thee, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee for ever, when thou **doest** that which is good and right in the sight of the LORD thy God. Deuteronomy 12:28

God has given us His Son, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." John 3:16-17. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. John 17:3. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, is God's Son, He is also the Word.

Look up and read John 1:1-18. We are to follow Jesus for Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and **they follow me**:" John 10:27.

In the Name of Jesus, the Holy Spirit was sent that we would hear and follow the instructions given in the Holy Word. As the scripture reads, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 14:26 "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you." John 16:13-14.

We will hear the voice of God and Jesus our Lord and Saviour through The Word. The Holy Spirit Guides us and we will hear His still small voice, see 1 Kings 19:12-13 "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left." Isaiah 30:21. The Holy Spirit works with your conscience - which is the sense of right and wrong that governs your thoughts and actions. (Collins online Dictionary). He also brings to remembrance the things we have learned in the Word of God.

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Pray now and ask for the Holy Spirit to come into your heart to guide you to be swift to hear and to open your heart that you will always hold fast to God's Word. Remember to pray for others, asking in Jesus Holy name.

Before opening God's word, pray and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to open your heart for a true understanding of His Words, ask always in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear**, slow to speak, slow to wrath: [James 1:19](#).

Yesterday, we learned that God gave us Instructions, how to live and walk in Him on this earth. Our hearts should be moved in love for God. He did not leave us to the evil one, nor did He leave us to live without guidance, nor did He leave us comfortless. See John 14:18, 26-27. The Psalmist said, "Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." [Psalms 16:11](#). God truly is Love.

[Read Deuteronomy 30:6-20.](#)

[Deuteronomy 30:6-20](#), is the Covenant in the Heart that comes with promises for those that hear and obey the voice of the LORD thy God.

We are given a choice. We can choose from the heart, to hear, and do what the Lord has said. This is by walking in His ways and keeping His commandments. Yet, we also can choose not to hear. We could choose to walk after other gods of this world, and live without God by following your own ways, self. We all choose one or the other. We all can choose, "life and death, blessing and cursing: ...Yet, it is better to choose life; ... therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: ... [Deuteronomy 30:19-20](#). God is life and life eternal, which is the length of days promised.

Why would we let Satan put selfish earplugs in our ears? If we allow this, we will end up deaf, deaf to the word of God and from hearing the voice of God, through His holy Spirit. Therefore, we have chosen death and cursing, if we allow Satan to put selfish earplugs in our ears, so we cannot hear our loving God.

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. [Revelations 3:20](#)

Would you like to commit yourself to The Lord your God: "That thou mayest **love the LORD thy God**, and that thou mayest **obey his voice**, and that thou mayest **cleave unto him**: for he **is thy life**, and the **length of thy days**:"? [Deuteronomy 30:20](#).

[Write your response on the lines provided.](#)

Pray now, ask for the blessing of the Holy Spirit, that you may always choose to be swift to hear His Word and following Him by doing His will that He has instructed you. Remember to pray for others, then your needs, asking in Jesus Holy Name.

Remember before opening God's word, pray and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to open your heart for a true understanding of His Words, in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Blessed Lord and Saviour.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear**, slow to speak, slow to wrath: [James 1:19](#).

[Read James 1:22-25](#)

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What are these verses asking of us, in the reading above, from the book of James? How do we deceive ourselves, if we hear the Word only, without being doers of the Word?

When we do not hear, our actions show. If we say we do hear and yet do not walk as we ort, the scriptures say, But ye have not so learned Christ; If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. [Ephesians 4:20-24](#)

Jesus said, “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Whosoever cometh to me, and **heareth my sayings**, and **doeth them**, I will show you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great. [Luke 6:46-49](#).

Who is our Rock in this parable in Luke 6:46-49? Read Psalms 18:2 & 31; 94:22, & 1 Corinthians 10:4. Write the answers on the lines provided.

We need to hear and do. It is by doing that we build a deeper foundation in Jesus our Rock.

The following verses are about hearing, and doing, the word of God. Read them all. Ask God for the Holy Spirit to give you understanding of His word, in Jesus’ name.

I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly. Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land. Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven. Yea, the LORD shall give that which is good; and our land shall yield her increase. Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set us in the way of his steps. [Psalms 85:8-13](#).

O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. **To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your heart**, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work. Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways: Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest. [Psalms 95:6-11](#).

Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee. [Psalms 143:8](#).

My son, **attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings**. Let them **not** depart from thine eyes; **keep** them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. Keep thy

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heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil. [Proverbs 4:20-27](#).

My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding: That thou mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips may keep knowledge. [Proverbs 5:1-2](#).

Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth. [Proverbs 5:7](#).

Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not. [Proverbs 8:36](#).

Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end. [Proverbs 19:20](#).

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil. [Ecclesiastes 12:13](#).

Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David. [Isaiah 55:3](#).

Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. [See Jeremiah 18:2-6](#).

Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears. [Ezekiel 3:10](#).

Jesus said, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." [Matthew 11:15](#).

Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. [Matthew 13:9](#). But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. [Matthew 13:16](#). And he said

unto them, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. [Mark 4:9](#). If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. [Mark 7:16](#).

But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it. [Luke 11:28](#).

But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. [John 10:2-4](#).

"Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts," [Continue to read Hebrews 3:7-19 from your Bible](#).

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand. [Revelation 1:1-3](#).

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. [Revelation 3:20](#).

... For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified. [Romans 2:13](#). [Hearing alone means nothing, if you do not follow what you hear. Read Romans chapter 8.](#)

To be "swift to hear", is an action, hearing the word of God and keeping, living, doing, following.

But he said, Yea rather, **blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.** [Luke 11:28](#).

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Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear** ... James 1:19.

Remember in closing your study time with God's Heavenly Family, Pray. Ask for the blessing of the Holy Spirit, that you may always be swift to hear His Word and upon the swiftness of hearing you may follow and do what He has asked of you. Remember to pray for others, then your needs, asking in Jesus Holy Name.

Before opening God's word, say prayer, asking God for the Holy Spirit to guide you in the Name of our Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, **slow to speak**, slow to wrath: James 1:19.

The meaning of Slow

Of uncertain affinity; *slow*; figuratively *dull*: - slow. (Strong's Concordance)

Slow: - adjective - 1. Performed or occurring during a comparatively long interval of time. 2. Lasting a comparatively long time. 3. Characterized by lack of speed. (Collins online Dictionary)

The meaning of Speak.

prolonged forms of an otherwise obsolete verb; to talk, that is, utter words: - preach, say, speak (after), talk, tell, utter.

(Strong's Concordance,)

Speak: - verb - Word forms: speaks, speaking, spoke, spoken

1. to make (verbal utterances); utter (words)
2. to communicate or express (something) in or as if in words. (Collins online Dictionary)

Read James 3:1-18; 4:11-17.

The tongue gets us into trouble. It is connected to the heart. From the heart to the tongue comes forth good or evil. "A good man out of the good

treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh." Luke 6:45.

We all have missed used our tongue wrongfully and sinned by the evil that our tongue has spoken. I do not know anyone that has lived on this earth who has not missed used it, apart from Jesus. I know I have said some bad things more times than I realize. Therefore, it is best to say nothing, or say yay, yay or nay, nay. We need to think before we even dare to open our mouth. We need to pause, think, and listen before speaking; easier said than done; Right? As you see here in James Chapter 3 verse 8 "the tongue can no man tame;" Jesus our Rock and Salvation is the only one that can help us in taming our heart and tongue, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13.

Everything that we speak should be spoken with Jesus in the heart and mind.

I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me. Psalm 39:1. Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips. Psalm 141:3.

In the study "The Potter" We learned that God is the Potter, and we are the clay. We also learned that God longs to remold us. *Let us pray and ask God our Heavenly Father for His Holy Spirit in Jesus name to guide us and mold our heart and tongue to do His will; that we will be swift to hear, slow to speak. Remember to pray for others, then your needs, always asking in Jesus Name.*

In opening God's word each day, pray, ask God for the Holy Spirit to guide you and help you to understand His words, in the Name of our Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, **slow to speak**, slow to wrath: James 1:19

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We are told that “He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit. Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.” [Proverbs 17:27-28](#).

What do you think this proverb is telling us? Write your answer on the lines provided.

“The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.” [Isaiah 50:4-5](#)

What are the lessons and blessings described in these verses of Isaiah 50:4-5?

God’s word gives us many lessons in the ways we should speak and ways we should not speak.

Read the following verses, then write down the examples we are being guided to speak, or not to speak, for each example given.

He that speaketh flattery to his friends, even the eyes of his children shall fail. [Job 17:5](#)

Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak. The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us? For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him. The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever. The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted. [Psalms 12:1-8](#).

The mouth of the just bringeth forth wisdom: but the froward tongue shall be cut out. The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable: but the mouth of the wicked speaketh frowardness. [Proverbs 10:31-32](#).

Meaning of [Froward](#), Adjective- (archaic) obstinate; contrary
[Frowardness](#) means noun- (archaic) the quality or state of being obstinate or contrary (Collins online Dictionary).

perversity or fraud: - (very) froward (-ness, thing), perverse thing.
(References from the Strong’s Concordance)

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The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness. [Proverbs 15:2](#)

Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. [Proverbs 4:24](#).

For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. [Proverbs 8:7](#).

He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction. [Proverbs 13:3](#).

In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them. [Proverbs 14:3](#).

The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips. Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones. [Proverbs 16:23-24](#).

Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil. Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few. For a dream cometh through the multitude of business; and a fool's voice is known by multitude of words. [Ecclesiastes 5:1-3](#).

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In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise. The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth. The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom. The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it. [Proverbs 10:19-22.](#)

And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. [Ephesians 4:30-32.](#)

Continue, by looking up and reading the following verses, which contain important lessons. Continue writing down the Examples we are being guided to speak, or not to speak, from the verses given. Remember to pray for the Holy Spirits guidance in Jesus' name.

[Ephesians 4:25.](#)

[Ephesians 4:29.](#)

[Ephesians 4:30-32.](#)

[Ephesians 5:6-8.](#)

[Colossians 3:8.](#)

[Colossians 3:17.](#)

[Matthew 5:33-37.](#)

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James 5:12.

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

1 Corinthians 13:1. Charity = Love, God is Love. 1 John 4:7,8.

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. James 4:10-11

Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man. Colossians 4:6.

God will give us words to speak in time of trial.

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. John 14:26.

But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. Matthew 10:19-20.

But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost. Mark 13:11.

God is always there; always ready to help in time of need. He has provided us with His Word, so in our everyday life we know how to conduct ourselves in behaviour and in speaking. It is so important to be swift to hear and do, in that hearing of God. We need to practice, with prayer, for God's help, on how we should speak in every way, whether talking to family, friends, church family, or in business, and so on. As we cannot tame our tongue of ourselves, as James 3:8 says, "But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison." But remember we ... can do all things through Christ which, as the scriptures say, ... "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13.

In time of trial, we can be comforted in knowing that God has always supplied our need. We do not need to be concerned about what to say, as Jesus will supply our words through the Holy Spirit. When we follow God's

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ways, we become examples to those around us, even those around you in times of trial. When we walk in the way of the Lord we are as light on a hill, others see and know that you have something wonderful, longing to have the same for themselves. God truly is love, always caring in all our needs. God supplied all, long before we ever took our first breath, through Christ Jesus. All we must do is believe in faith and walk in His ways.

I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me. [Psalm 39:1](#). Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips. [Psalm 141:3](#).

Pray “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer”. [Psalms 19:14](#). *Ask God for the Holy Spirit to remind you always of His word and that He will guide you to be, “swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.” In Jesus Holy name. Remember to pray for others, then your needs, asking in Jesus’ name.*

Before opening God’s word today, pray, asking God for the Holy Spirit to guide you and help you to understand His words in the Name of our Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, **slow to wrath**: [James 1:19](#).

The meaning of Slow.

Strong’s Concordance: - Of uncertain affinity; *slow*; figuratively *dull*: - slow.

Slow: - adjective - 1. Performed or occurring during a comparatively long interval of time. 2. Lasting a comparatively long time. 3. Characterized by lack of speed. (Collins online Dictionary)

The meaning of Wrath.

Strong’s Concordance: - Properly desire (as a reaching forth or excitement of the mind), that is, (by analogy) violent passion (ire, or [justifiable] abhorrence); by implication punishment: - anger, indignation, vengeance, wrath.

Wrath: - Noun- 1. angry, violent, or stern indignation. 2. divine vengeance or retribution. 3. (archaic) a fit of anger or an act resulting from anger. (References from the Strong’s Concordance, Collins online Dictionary)

For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. [James 1:20-21](#).

Meaning of Superfluity in James 1:21

Strong’s Concordance: - Surplusage, that is, superabundance: - abundance (-ant, [-ly]), superfluity.

Superfluity: - Noun - 1. the condition of being superfluous: **superfluous:** - Adjective – 1 exceeding what is sufficient or required. 2. Not necessary or relevant; uncalled-for.

Superfluity: - Noun - 2. a quantity or thing that is in excess of what is needed 3. A thing that is not needed.

(References from the Strong’s Concordance, Collins online Dictionary)

What are the lessons taught here in James 1:20-21?

Read the following verses and write down what is the lesson that has been taught us from these verses regarding wrath.

He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly: and a man of wicked devices is hated. [Proverbs 14:17](#).

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For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, [1 Thessalonians 5:9](#)

He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city. [Proverbs 16:32](#).

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. [Psalms 37:8-11](#).

For wrath killeth the foolish man, and envy slayeth the silly one. [Job 5:2](#).

Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil. [Ephesians 4:26-27](#).

It is not sinful to be angry about something, having good reason or cause, note [Matthew 5:22](#). Yet, it is sinful to be angry if you have angry words, or become violent, bitter, revengeful, commit murder, and hateful, and so on, note [1 John 3:15](#). You can hate the wrong that people do, but not the person, which is made in God's image, note [Genesis 9:6](#). The wrath/anger is not to overtake you, it is not to last a long time. Hence, we are not to let the "sun go down upon your wrath." The reason why we are told this, is, so we do not give place for the devil to take over. We need to give these feelings over to God. God gives us the peace so that we do not use angry words or become violent, bitter, revengeful, and hateful and so on. When we allow this kind of behaviour, we have given place for the devil. Our anger should be given straight to God in prayer. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." [Hebrews 4:16](#). "For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God". [James 1:20](#). "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." [Romans 12:19](#). "If he say thus, It is well; thy servant shall have peace: but if he be very wroth, then be sure that evil is determined by him." [1 Samuel 20:7](#). "Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry." [Psalms 34:14-15](#).

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Continue reading the following verses, write down the lessons been taught from these verses regarding wrath.

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth. [Psalms 37:8-9](#).

He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly. [Proverbs 14:29](#).

A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. [Proverbs 15:1](#).

Can you see the importance to have Jesus guiding your life in all things?

It can take but a moment for any situation to change. Even when studying the scriptures. That is why we need to “be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.” [James 1:19](#). Trusting always that Jesus will supply all our needs, in all things. “He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.” [Psalms 112:7](#).

Pray, “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer”. [Psalms 19:14](#). Ask God to come into your heart to guide you to be “swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:” Ask for the Holy Spirit to always guide you through the day and remember to pray for others and then your needs, asking in Jesus’ Holy Name.

Remember, before opening God’s word, pray. Ask of God, for the Holy Spirit, to open your eyes, that you may see Him in His word, and understand His words, ever asking in the Name of our Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: [James 1:19](#).

Open your Bible and read Ephesians 4:17-32. These verses cover, swift to hear, note verses 20, 21, 20-32; slow to speak note verses 22, 25, 31; slow to wrath note verses 26, 31, as in [James 1:19](#).

Take your time reading each verse. Study them with prayer asking for the Holy Spirits guidance, asking in Jesus’ name.

Re-read the noted verses from above and write down how they help with each subject. Also, look at the words that are used to help us understand the action of being swift to hear, and the action words for slow to speak, and slow to wrath. Words like: - put off, put on, let no, with all malice, be ye and so on.

“Swift to hear”

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“Slow to speak”

“Slow to wrath”

Can you see the great importance of being “swift to hear”, “slow to speak”, “slow to wrath” and what changes do you think, when put to practice, will they make in your life?

Read Psalms 40:2-5, 8 & 11.

Pray, and ask God to come into your heart to mold you to be “swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:” Ask for the Holy Spirit to always guide you through your life and the day ahead. Remember to pray for others and then your needs, asking in Jesus Holy Name.

Before opening God’s word, remember to pray, ask of God for the Holy Spirit to guide your heart and mind that you may understand His words in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath**: James 1:19.

Open your Bible and read 1 John 3:18-24.

Read the questions below, then re-read these verses of 1 John 3:18-24. Write in the answers to the questions using these verses.

What are we not to do?

What are we to do?

If our, what, condemn us?

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Who is greater?

What do we have confidence in and why?

What shall we receive if we ask and why?

What is His Commandment?

Who dwells in Jesus and Jesus in who, and why?

How do we know He abides in us?

Who gave us the Spirit?

God has laid out everything before us. Salvation is in Jesus, and if we have sinned, and truly repented, He has forgiven. And in His Word – Jesus, we have assurance. He has given His Spirit to abide in us. There is nothing He has not already supplied for us. All we must do is accept Jesus as our blessed redeemer. In accepting, obeying, following His word, keeping it in our hearts every day. Being “swift to hear” is a moment-by-moment event for those who follow God in His Holy Word.

1 John 3:23, sums up the 10 Commandments. Read this verse again.

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Jesus said unto him, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” [Matthew 22:37-40](#).

Now read God’s Law that was written on stone in Exodus 20:1-17.

Can you see the first four Commandments as believing in God and loving Him with your heart, soul, and mind, and the last six Commandments as loving others -neighbour as you love yourself, in the Love for God?

Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. [Matthew 7:12](#).

Pray “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer”. [Psalms 19:14](#). *Ask God for the Holy Spirit to remind you always of His word and love. Request, with desire, for God to continue to mold you, that you will always be “swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:” Ask for the Holy Spirit to always guide you through your life and the day ahead. Remember to pray for others, then your needs, asking always in Jesus Name.*

Remember, always to open God’s word with prayer. Ask God, our Heavenly Father, for the Holy Spirit to guide your heart and mind. Ask of God, that you may hear with understanding of His words. Asking in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath**: [James 1:19](#).

If we are swift to hear we will have the love of God in our hearts; in which the love for others will follow. As we have learned, the word hear, is not merely hearing, but following out that hearing, the hearing of the Word of God. My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:18. “But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves”. [James 1:22](#).

If we love God and others, we would be slow to speak, as we are swift to hear. And likewise, we would be slow to wrath as we are swift to hear and slow to speak.

Read [James 1:19-27](#).

If ye know that he ([he=Jesus the Son of God](#)) is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him. [1 John 2:29](#).

Read [James 2:14-26](#).

When we hear God’s word and we believe, this is wonderful. Yet, without following through with what we hear, faith will not grow. Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. [James 2:17](#). Faith in hearing of the word is faith hearing in action. Seest thou how faith wrought with his ([his=Abraham](#)) works, and by works was faith made perfect? [See James 2:21-22](#). “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” [Romans 10:17](#).

“...follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. [1 Timothy 6:11-12](#).

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath**: [James 1:19](#).

Pray, “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer”. [Psalms 19:14](#). *Ask God for the Holy Spirit to remind you always of His word and*

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love, that His Word will continue to mold you and that you will always be “swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.” Ask for the Holy Spirit to always guide you through your life and the day ahead. Remember to pray for others, then your needs, asking in Jesus Holy Name.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath**: James 1:19.

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts. Jeremiah 15:16.

Over the next 5 days, I would like you to read through James chapter 1 to chapter 5. Reading a chapter for each day. When you are reading through each chapter, take your time to pause, and pray, over the verses that stir or move your heart. If you see yourself in need, for Jesus, to work the Potter’s wheel so He may reshape you, after reading a verse, Pause, and Pray, giving Jesus, permission to do so. He longs for His molding in you “to give you an expected end.” Life Eternal with Him. See Jeremiah 29:11. Remember the promise in Jeremiah “Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:12-13.

For each study day please remember always to open God’s word with prayer. Ask God our Heavenly Father for the Holy Spirit to guide you and to open your heart, and mind, that you may hear, and understand His Words. Ask always in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Your thoughts, on: -

James Chapter 1

James Chapter 2

James Chapter 3

James Chapter 4

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James Chapter 5

Pray, “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer”. [Psalms 19:14](#). Ask God for the Holy Spirit to remind you always of His word and love, that Jesus will continue to mold you and reshape you, that you will always be “swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.” Ask for the Holy Spirit to always guide you through your life and the day ahead. Remember to pray for others and then your needs, asking in Jesus Holy Name. Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. [1Timothy 1:17](#).

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath**: [James 1:19](#).