**“Living Out Your Faith through God’s Word”**

**James 1:19-27**

**AUTHORSHIP: It is quite generally agreed that James, called by Paul “the Lord’s brother,” (Gal. 1:19), was the writer of the epistle.**

**TO WHO ADDRESSED: Apparently to the Jewish converts who lived outside the Holy Land, possibly also to the devout Jews of the dispersion, ch.1:1.**

**MAIN THEME: Practical Religion, manifesting itself in good works, contrasted with mere Profession of Faith.**

**KEY TEXTS: James 1:27 – Religion that God the Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world; James 2:26 – As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.**

**DESIRE and God’s Word**

**James 1:19-21**

**DECEPTION and God’s Word**

**James 1:22-25**

**DISTRESS and God’s Word**

**James 1:26-27**

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**Sample Harvest Homes Questions**

**1) Which verses stand out to you?**

**2) What principles and lessons do you see in the word?**

**3) How can you apply these principles to your life?**

**4) What teachings or statements don’t you quite understand and want to study further?**

**5) What did you learn about God?**

**6) What did you learn about human nature?**

**7) What did you learn about your own relationship with God?**

**8) You believe that God is calling you to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Confession of Faith**

**Desire -** I have taken note and I am quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because my anger will not bring about the righteous life that God desires. I am getting rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in me, which can save my soul.

**Deception -** I don’t just listen to the word, and deceive myself. I do what it says. By looking intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continuing to do this, not forgetting what I have heard, but doing it - I am blessed in what I do.

**Distress -** I am religious and keep a tight rein on my tongue, I don’t deceive myself and my religion is not worthless. My religion is accepted by God because it is pure and faultless because of this: looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping myself from being polluted by the world.