***“Don’t just listen…do God’s Word”***

***James 1:19-25***

Listening well to voices who care can be a matter of life and death for people like Erik Weihenmayer.  Have you ever had an experience where your “listening” determined whether you passed or failed, lived or died, had joy or sorrow?

Disciples of Jesus are commanded to “listen” well to the authoritative voice of God’s Word in their life.  But it is a listening that goes beyond just hearing words, but actively doing something about it.

The text:  James 1:19-25

Questions to discuss

1.     James says we are to be quick to listen and slow to speak…and that we are to “humbly accept” the word planted already in us.  What aspects of your life do you find a struggle to listen to what God has already said about a matter?  Why might this be?

2.     Conversely, there are areas in our lives in which God’s Word has gained victory.  What are those and what has helped you to move towards increased maturity and victory?

Simply “hearing” God’s Word does not produce much fruit.  It needs to move beyond into “doing” something.  James uses an illustration of a mirror to describe how God’s Word works in a disciple’s life.

Examination – don’t just glance at God’s Word, go deeper

Restoration – the Word of God represents washing (John 15:3, Eph. 5:26, I John 1:9)

Transformation – the Word of God seeks to transform, metamorphosis (2 Cor. 3:18)

As a disciple moves from “hearing” to “doing” transformation happens and blessing results.

Life Group Application Questions/Discussion

       What have you “heard” from God’s Word in the past few weeks that needs to move to “doing?”

       Are you currently being disobedient in some clear matter of faith and life and desire to move toward obedience?  What is God’s Word and God’s Spirit saying?  They will never contradict one another.

       What blessings have you experienced because you “heard” God’s Word and actively practiced what it said?