

CAC LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

James: Faith in Real Life – October 12, 2025

Big Idea: Be quick...and slow.

Ice Breaker

Share a funny moment when you totally misheard someone — maybe you confidently repeated what you thought they said... and it turned out way off!

Key Points

Take a few minutes to review the key points from this week's sermon:

- Quick to listen: Distraction keeps us from hearing God and others. True listening takes focus and intentionality.
- Slow to speak: Denial and pride keep us defensive. God calls us to humility, allowing His Word to speak before we do.
- Slow to become angry: Dislocation happens when our desires and priorities get out of place. Human anger doesn't produce God's righteousness.
- True spiritual maturity involves listening first, resisting the need to defend, and letting God's Word speak.

Discussion Questions

Based on the sermon, discuss the questions below:

- What was your biggest takeaway from this message?
- Did anything in the message challenge you, convict you, or encourage you?

Making it Personal

Reflect on the message with your group:

- Who is someone you always intently listen to, no matter the circumstances? Why do you think that is?
- What distracts you from being a good listener – to both God and others?
- Knowing that *what* you listen to matters, are there any listening habits you have that would be wise to reconsider?
- How do you decide when it's better to speak and when it's better to stay silent? Describe a time when your words came out before your wisdom caught up.
- When have you noticed anger stirring something good in you—like a desire for justice or truth—and when has it led you toward words or actions you regretted?
- Has anger damaged a relationship in your life? What would humility look like there?

Scripture Review

Revisit these passages and discuss:

- James 1:19–21 – What are the three commands James gives? How are we to accept God's word?
- James 4:1–2 – Where do fights and quarrels come from?

Diving Deeper

Explore additional Scriptures that connect to this week's message:

- **Old Testament:** Proverbs 10:19; Proverbs 17:27–28; Psalm 34:13–15; Proverbs 29:11; Ecclesiastes 7:9, Exodus 14:14

- **New Testament:** Luke 8:18; Ephesians 4:26–27; Colossians 3:8–10; Matthew 12:34–37; Philippians 2:3–5, 1 Peter 3:10, Romans 10:17

Application & Action

James reminds us that faith in real life means being transformed in how we listen, speak, and respond. God calls us to turn down the world's noise, receive His Word with humility, and reflect His character in our relationships. Real maturity shows up not just in what we believe, but in how we behave — in conversations, conflicts, and choices.

Revisit the Word

- Read James 1:19–21 aloud again. Before reading, pause and pray:
“Lord, show me where I need to slow down, listen better, and trust You more.”

Personal Reflection

- Take 2–3 minutes in silence: “What’s one area where I need to grow — listening more deeply, speaking more carefully, or letting go of anger?” Write down your response.

Group Discussion

- **Listening to Jesus:** What did the Holy Spirit highlight for you this week about your listening, words, or emotions?
- **Walking with Him:** What practical step can you take to better hear God’s Word and act on it this week?
- **Anchoring in His Word:** Which verse will you hold onto to shape your responses this week (e.g., James 1:19, Luke 8:18, Proverbs 17:27)?
- **Leaning on His People:** Who helps you stay centered when distractions or anger take over, and how can you support one another? Who in your life needs a listening ear, and how can you lean in, listen well, and ask good questions to help them?
- **Growing in His Likeness:** How does being “quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry” reflect the character of Jesus to the world?
- **Action Step:** Finish this sentence: “This week I be quick/slow to _____ by _____.”

Prayer

Close your group time with the prayer Pastor Dave used in his message:

- Lord, help us be people who listen well — especially to You. Teach us to quiet the noise so we can hear Your Word. Make us hungry for Scripture, faithful to read it, and humble enough to obey it. Help us speak wisely, love patiently, and live righteously. Plant Your Word deep in us — and let it bear fruit in our homes, our church, and our world.

Daily 2-Minute Practice: Listen. Slow Down. Realign.

- **Listen** (30 seconds): Pause and quiet your mind. Ask, “God, what are You saying to me today?”
- **Slow Down** (1 minute): Reflect on one area where you tend to react quickly. Pray for patience and humility.
- **Realign** (30 seconds): Read James 1:19–20 or Luke 8:18 and carry that verse with you as a reminder to live differently.