## RECEIVE & RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

JAMES 1:19-25

1	Anger management is a popular phrase these days. In fact, you or a relative of yours may have been to anger management class. Read James 1:19-21. What is at the heart of anger? What is at the heart of your anger? What are God's three admonitions surrounding anger in this passage?
2	Some of us have been angry in our trials. Some of us have been angry with other people, angry with the trial itself, angry with self and ultimately angry with God. We may be deceived that our anger will produce change. But God says in James 1:20 that anger does not produce what we think it will. In fact, what does anger NOT produce? Anger in trials does producelook at Ephesians 4:25-32 and write out what sinful anger produces:
3	<b>Ephesians 4:25-32 and James 1:21-25 give us a similar process of change.</b> We are to "put away" certain things and to "do" certain things. What are we to "put away?" What are we to "do?" This kind of obedience must be empowered. Otherwise, it is simply religious will power and produces pride and ultimately failure.
	What empowers you to do what is right in the midst of trials? See James 1:21 and Eph. 4:30, 32. If the gospel is not central in a person's life, what will his response to trials be? If the gospel is not real in someone's life, what will his response to the Word of God be?
	Explain this statement: the Word that requires obedience empowers obedience.
4	How tender are you to the Word of God? What does it mean to "receive" with meekness the engrafted word? What does it mean that how you receive determines the salvation of your soul?
5	All believers come to have the same "love language." See the Psalmist's description of this love language in Psalm 119:97 "Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day." If you are struggling with loving the Word, there are a few questions you should be asking.
	What speaks to me more loudly than God's Word?

	◆ Does the enemy steal the Word so I cannot understand, do tribulations cause me to turn away from the Word destroy the power of the Word in my life?	ord, do riches and pursuing them
	Is my heart bent on sin and therefore affecting how I receive the Word? (James 1:21)	
6	(Luke 8:15, 18) "As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an hones with patience Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one what he has will be taken away." Some people think that how they hear God's Word just is a matter of persona according to the verses you just read? How is perseverance tied in to your chosen response to the Word of God.	who has not, even what he thinks lity or intelligence. Is this true,
7	Someone who hears the Word but does not obey the Word James says this person is deceived. What is the picturesque description of this person? (see James 1:23-24). Why is it deceptive to hear God's Word and not obey it? We can have no assurance that we have really received God's truth until the truth is evidenced in our lives. Does your measure of obedience to what you hear reassure you, or challenge you, or both? List some areas of your life where you have said you are willing to obey, but you are not actively obeying. How will you move forward in these areas?	PRAYER REQUESTS
8	How is James' call for obedience different from an attempt to earn a right standing before God—that is, works-righteousness?	
9	Let it be simply engraved in our minds: What we know, we must obey. So if you are seeking more knowledge of God, your obedience must grow in direct proportion. For some this may seem like a reason to seek less knowledge, but no Christian has the luxury of remaining in one place spiritually. We are designed to move forward or backward. Persevere, Christians—go hard after Christ through a deep pursuit of the living Word. You will not be disappointed and in the end, you will see how you received the Word actually saved your soul.	