



## **NEW: James 1:25 Group Curriculum**

The New Fellowship Group Bible Discussion Format

**James 1:25, “But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.”** The purpose of Fellowship Group Bible discussion is to become *effectual doers* of the Word. Not from a legalistic check-list, “it’s all up to me” philosophy; instead we know that **“apart from me (JESUS) you can do nothing”** (John 15:5).

So, each week we will discuss a Bible passage that will be part of the *upcoming* weekend message. That discussion will follow this format: **Observe, Interpret and Apply**. The main focus will be on the third part – **Application**. First, we will observe the text with questions guiding us to examine the passage closely (as time allows). Second, we’ll take time to talk about interpreting the text which will include some questions, but may also include some guidance to honor the context. Finally, our main purpose is to do the Word, so we will take time to discuss how we will actually apply the text to our lives. First, we will apply it personally (using pronouns like “me,” “myself,” and “I”). Second, we will apply it to our *personal* areas of influence (family, friends, neighbors, work, etc.). Application, empowered by the Spirit working in us, is the goal.

God promises we *will be blessed* in **applying** God’s Word – James 1:25.

## **A Study of Acts | Fall 2017 | Fellowship Groups Curriculum**

**Key Text: Acts 2:4 (Ephesians 5:18-21)**

**Last Week:** We began our study of Acts looking at Jesus’ call to be Witnesses (Acts 1:1-11). Jesus told His disciples that the Holy Spirit would come upon them and empower them to be His Witnesses. The disciples have been waiting. They waited together (Acts 1:9-2:1). This week we see Jesus fulfill His promise. The disciples receive a gift of the Spirit that helps them fulfill their Acts 1:8 mission.

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### **Acts 2:1-13 | Live By Power of the SPIRIT**

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#### **Jesus keeps His promise and sends the Spirit (Acts 2:1-13) [OBSERVE]**

- Read Acts 2:1-13 and discuss what you discover in the greater context of our text (Acts 1-2).
- What structure do you see between Acts 2:1-4 and 2:5-13?
- What do the specifics mentioned in verse 5-13 tell us about verse 4?

#### **The Apostles are Filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4) [INTERPRET]**

- How do the descriptions in 2:5-11 define “tongues” in verse 4?
- How does verse 6 provide clarity and understanding to the interpretation of “speaking in tongues”?
- Why was the ability to speak in different “tongues” a strategic gifting by the Spirit for the apostles?

#### **Big Idea: Live by the Power of the Spirit (Acts 2:4; and Ephesians 5:18-21) [APPLY]**

- Read Ephesians 5:18-21. What does it look like for you to live filled with the power of the Spirit?
- Why do you need the Spirit to encourage (v19), give thanks (v20), and be subject to one another (v21)?
- How can we help each other live by the power of the Spirit?

**Next Week’s Discussion: Acts 2:41-47 (Read Acts 2)**