



MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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JUST DO IT

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*James 1:23-25
But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.*

In the 1980s Nike launched the very successful “Just Do It” ad campaign. The challenge was a call to all Americans – and the world – to just do what they needed to do – exercise, or whatever. Christians today need a similar challenge. We face a constant tension between knowing and doing. In our age of endless easily accessible information, we know a lot but often

fail to implement what we know.

Apart from our Bibles, we have a constant stream of online resources that parse, dissect, and explain Scripture. Yet in this deluge of biblical information, Christians don’t seem to have improved in our walk with the Lord. We wrestle with basic life choices and stumble into blunder after blunder. It is apparent that we are afflicted with the condition described in James 1:23-24. We know the Word, but we don’t do the Word. James invites us to abandon this dead-end road and get on the path of wisdom and faith.

According to James, failure to live by the truth we know is a form of dreadful self-deception. We are content to congratulate ourselves on our knowledge while failing to realize how little we are applying it. We are like a person who dies from thirst while celebrating the bubbling spring of sweet, clear water gushing by his waning eyes. Foolish you say? No more foolish than those of us who know the Word, but do not do it. Wisdom requires us to practice what we know.

Obedience to the Word is also the path of faith. In verse 25, James promises that the one who perseveres in obeying the word will be blessed. Please note that

blessing follows perseverance. We don’t just obey the Word here and there, or for short periods of time. We make it our consistent practice. We live by it. Every day. It is our guide in every situation. Even when it contradicts our natural desires. Actually – especially when it contradicts our natural desires. God will bless the individual who lives like this. Notice the blessing is in the future tense. Choosing to obey God even when we do not see immediate fruit is a profound act of faith. It is our affirmation that God is trustworthy. We know the planted seed is germinating beneath the soil even when it seems like nothing is happening above ground. We obey God even when there are no immediate, obvious results because we believe He is faithful. We know He keeps His word. Therefore, we will wait on Him to act. This is faith in action.

How are you doing in this area? Are you speeding along the pathway of disobedient self-deception, or are you persevering in the path of obedient faith? Don’t make excuses. Just do it! The Word that is.

God bless you,

Pastor James

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM

JUL 19

Join us via Zoom video
Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP
FRI @ 6:45 PM

JUL 22

Is Canceled this week due to VBS.

Weekly for teens ages 13 and over

EVENING SERVICE
1st & 3rd
SUN @ 6 PM

AUG 7 & AUG 21

Join us in-person at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY
SUN @ 11 AM

JUL 24

These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service

Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

GROWTH GROUPS
THU & FRI @ 7 PM

CONTINUE THIS WEEK

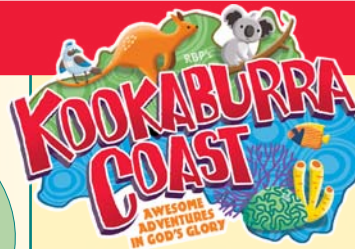
In-person at church.
Plan to attend one convenient to you.
Sign-up on our website or the Info. Ctr.

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM

JUL 24

In-person service & livestream
Livestreaming is only on Facebook and our church’s website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



- **VBS is happening at church this week from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.** Send your kids ages 4 years old – teens for an exciting time of fun and adventure as they learn more about God!
- **Growth Groups continue this week.** Sign up at the Information Center or online to attend one convenient to you. Prep questions are available at the Information Center and on the church’s website.
- Bible Reading plans for 2022 are available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie’s daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.

QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. Please remember to hit “SAVE” after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!