**Showing Faith to Be True**

**Sermon Based Discussion (June 12, 2016)**

**Dispersed Faith (James 2016)**

**WARM UP**

1. How important is it to follow instructions?

*Life can be quite hard because of the trials we face in them. It doesn’t matter how old you are, trials will come. But navigating difficult situations is not really what makes them hard. It’s choosing do what is right seems to bring the most difficulty.*

*In this session, we are called to be changed. Let’s look at how that change comes about and what that means in the long run.*

**INTO THE BIBLE (Read James 1:12-27)**

1. What is the source of temptations in the face of trials?

1. What is the reward for those who remain steadfast in trial?

**UNDERSTANDING**

1. Why is it important to know that temptations don’t come from God but ourselves?
2. What does it mean to put away “all filthiness and rampant wickedness”? What does it mean to not just hear the word, but “receive” the word and then do the word? Why is it important to do this?
3. Why does the author warn against deceiving yourself? What’s at stake?
4. What is our faith to be in? Where does such a gift come from? Why is that important in the face of the call to action or changed behavior in our lives?

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**DIFFERENCE**

1. Do you hear the word? Do you let the word shape your life? Do you do the word? What holds you back from doing all three?
2. Is your “religion” genuine? Would the author consider it “worthless” or “pure and undefiled”? Why?

**APPLICATION**

1. Find a time to reflect on your life and pray to God. There are many areas to we can think about when considering the fruit our lives are bearing. Stay focused on the three listed in the passage from this week (Controlling our speech, caring for the powerless, and being driven by God above the world)