

Go Deep

James 1:19-21

1. *Read James 1:19.* How would this country be different if *everyone* was quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry? How would your home life be different? Church? How would you be different if you obeyed this?
2. Would you say that God is quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry?
3. What is so valuable about listening that we should be “quick to listen?” What should be our goal in listening? How do you know if a person is slow to speak and what other characteristics might they have?
4. Why does James move from speaking and listening to anger? *Read 1:20.* What is “human anger?” Where does it come from? What is the motivation behind human anger? How does someone with human anger act? What is the connection between anger and pride?
5. Compare and contrast human anger with God’s anger? Since we are humans, is our anger always considered “human anger”?
6. What does James mean by “the righteousness God desires”? Why can’t human anger spur on or promote righteous living in ourselves or others?
7. *Read 1:21.* Does this verse and other New Testament passages command us to get rid of all of their anger or is it ever okay to keep anger? (i.e. anger toward those who promote or perform abortions or kidnap children).
8. Why is it necessary to get rid of the moral filth of anger (and other sin) before you can receive the Word with humility? Have you ever known someone who has been kept from accepting God’s Word because of anger?