



PRACTICE HARD

ENGAGE

WELCOME (Shake hands, give high-fives, write name tags, and connect with other students)

ICEBREAKER (Don't skip this part! This helps people connect and start conversation!)

- *Share about something you are good at now, but failed at a lot when you first started.*

READ: James 1:19-25

“Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls. But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.”

EQUIP

SET THE SCENE: James, the writer of this passage, is believed to be the brother of Jesus. This is a letter to the Israelites, highlighting the necessity of believers acting in accordance with their faith. He clearly identifies the characteristics of a Jesus follower: quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger. None of these things are possible without the power of Christ, instilled within us upon accepting Him. This letter also says we can't just listen to God's Word, we have to do what it says. God is in the business of radical transformation. Our actions are an outward display of the inner work that He is doing in our lives. If we do and act out of a motivations of achievement, we miss the point. We don't “do” to achieve, but we “do” because we delight in who God is.

Transformation takes time. When you were born, you didn't automatically how to walk or eat food. You learned, you practiced, and over time, it became part of everyday life. Learning to follow Jesus is a journey, it doesn't happen overnight. We will have good days, bad days, tough moments and great victories. The more we practice adhering to His word and spending time with Him, the more we grow.

NOTE: This outline is a flexible way to equip Huddle Leaders to lead their Huddle. It can meet the needs of various Huddle lengths as it can be anywhere between 30 minutes-55 minutes.



What does this scripture say about me and my relationship with God?

- God has given me all that I need to be both a hearer and doer of the Word and doesn't expect me to have it all together on my own. He just expects me to try.
- *SALT LEADER EXAMPLE:*

What does this say about my relationship with others?

- True faith in Jesus will change the way you live which will change the way you see others. You begin to live like Jesus did. He loved and laid down His life for the wellbeing of others so they could know God's true heart.
- *SALT LEADER EXAMPLE:*

How does this relate to sports?

- It's not enough to just know the rules of your sport and how to play. To be an excellent athlete, you have to practice the plays. You run the plays and execute the skills. As Christians, we learn how Jesus lived and what he taught, but may not seek to live like Him or follow His commands. True faith in Jesus leads to a changed life.
- *SALT LEADER EXAMPLE:*

INTENTIONAL CONVERSATION

Spend time in small groups discussing the following questions:

1. What are some skills and plays you need to learn to become a better athlete? What keeps you from actually running that play or executing that skill?
2. Do you believe that you should succeed every time if you practice your faith? Why or why not?
3. *SALT LEADER QUESTION:*
4. *SALT LEADER QUESTION:*

EMPOWER CHALLENGE

Ask God this week to show you how you can put your faith into action. Maybe that means inviting someone to Huddle!

PRAYER

Break the Huddle. Invite the students to come back next week to engage with one another!

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