

★ Wisdom & Obedience

Doers of the Word

Lesson 7

The Teacher's Preparation

Scripture Passages to Study: James 1

Study Guide: Read "Wisdom & Obedience: Doers of the Word" from *New Testament Highlights - Part 2*.

Lesson Objective: The most important word in the phrase "doers of the word" is *word*, because God's work must be done God's way, or according to God's Word.

Lesson Application: I can be a doer of the word by hearing and heeding and reading and remembering God's Word!

Memory Verse: James 1:22



But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

—James 1:22

The Teacher's Checklist

- Activity Worksheets and Pencils
- Attendance and Record Notebook
- Lesson Plan
- Cue Card
- Memory Verse Card
- Music Player
- Visual Illustrations for the Lesson
- Attention Getter: Tennis Shoes

Teacher Tips

"The mediocre teacher tells.
The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates.
The great teacher inspires."

—William Ward

The Teacher's Lesson Plan

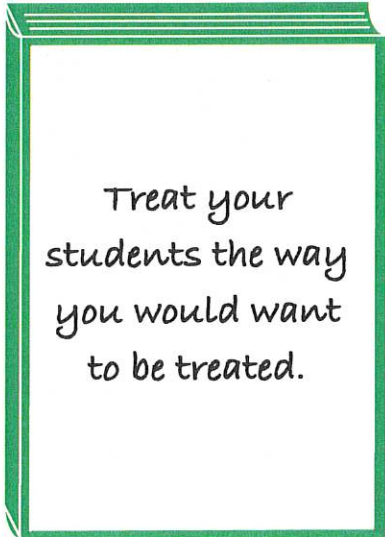
Materials: Tennis Shoes

What You Could Say:

In school, perhaps during recess or P.E. class, you probably do a lot of running. In a game of "Tag," you are running away from whoever is "It." In a game of "Hide and Seek," you are running to find the perfect hiding place. In a game of kickball, you are running from one base to another. In a relay race, you are running against your classmates to see who the fastest runner is that day. *That is a lot of running!* With that much activity, the best type of shoes to wear are running, or tennis, shoes like these. Just imagine what would happen if you wore your fuzzy house slippers in a game of "Tag." Why, you would be "It" all the time! What would happen if you wore your special church shoes in a relay race? You would probably be too worried about scuffing them up and upsetting your mother to focus on winning the race! In order to run your best, you need to wear the best type of shoes, ones that will protect your feet from sharp rocks and stones and other things that could hurt you as you run.

In Hebrews 12:1, we read these words: "Let us run with patience the race that is set before us." The race this verse is talking about is not the kind of race that you would run during school with your friends or after school with your brothers or sisters. This is a race that *everybody* runs all the time—it's the race of life. When you pay close attention in church and in Sunday school, you are better preparing yourself for that race.

Teacher's Notes



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Doers of the Word

4th - 6th Grade
Lesson 7

Have you ever heard of the Olympics? The Olympic games are held every four years. This extensive athletic event brings people from many different countries to compete to win a gold medal. Long ago, when the Olympic games first began, the winner of the games would be given a wreath crown. It was an honorable award. The athletes of the Olympics have to work very hard. They pay a lot of money to the people who train them. Those who compete have to wake up very early in the morning to practice and work hard. There are no shortcuts to getting to the Olympics. A person must work his hardest and do his very best.

Many Olympic athletes dedicate their entire lives to trying to get an Olympic medal. Just as they work hard to win their prize, we need to work hard at being good Christians. Being good Christians doesn't get us to heaven, but it shows God how much we love Him. One day, every person who has accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior will stand before God; and God will reward him with different crowns for what he has done if he has obeyed God. The Bible specifically says that those who are *doers of the Word* will be given a crown of life. And we'll be able to give that crown back to Jesus! This crown can only be given to those who have endured temptation and been doers of the Word. In this lesson, we are going to learn about this crown of life. We are going to learn about temptation and how we can do our very best to win the crown.

The Truth About Temptation

Just like Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness, the Bible tells us that the devil will tempt us Christians. Satan doesn't want to be your friend, and he doesn't want to play games. Satan wants to ruin our lives, and when we give in to temptation, we are letting him win. Satan knows just what to do to get you to do something you shouldn't. He will put things in your path just so that you will fall. The good part about it is that God promises us that He'll be with us when Satan tempts us. God is in control of everything that happens in our lives. Do you remember the story of Job? Satan had to get permission from God to hurt Job! God knows how much we are able to take. The Bible says that God will never give us something that is too hard for us to take. When we are tempted, we must have strength and courage to defeat the devil and not give in to temptation.

Doers and Deceivers

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth

therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

—James 1:22-25

A doer is someone who *does* something. A deceiver is someone who *lies* or *misleads* himself.

There is a big difference between someone who does and someone who deceives. A doer both hears and heeds God's Word, while a deceiver hears and forgets. Doers listen to the preaching of God's Word and apply the teaching to their lives. Deceivers act like Christians on Sunday morning and pagans the rest of the week.

Someone who is a doer of the Word will endure temptation without becoming bitter or angry. He will not give in to Satan's temptations to do wrong. Someone who is a deceiver will do follow his own way instead of God's way.

Conclusion: Doers of the Word

The most important word in the phrase "doers of the word" is *word*. It's not enough to just be someone who is a doer; what a person does has to be done God's way. Do you remember the story of Cain and Abel? Both of them offered sacrifices to God, but only one sacrifice was accepted. Cain did not offer his sacrifice the way he was supposed to, but Abel did! Some people think that they can get to heaven if they are good people. But that is not God's plan. The only way to get to heaven is by putting faith in Jesus.

Some people think that, if they do good works, they won't have to be obedient to God. This is not true either. The Bible says that to "obey is better than sacrifice."

We need to listen to the preaching of God's Word and study the Bible so that we can be obedient to God and be *doers of the Word*. If we do this, God promises that we will some day receive a "crown of life."