



DBR

WITH THE EDGE

November 21 – James 3

Re-read James 3:2

James wants his readers to remember the serious challenge that they all face when it comes to words. Our mouths can get us into a lot of trouble with God and others. What are some things you need to stop saying today? (Think about more than just “bad words,” but also lying, exaggeration, and complaining.)

November 22 – James 4

Re-read James 4:6

We can learn a lot from this simple phrase: “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” God is against people who are prideful, but is for those who are humble. Many sinful actions are driven by pride, or putting yourself above everyone else, including God. Are there people in your life that you are constantly thinking you are better than (friends, siblings, or parents)? How can you be humble instead?

November 23 – James 5

Re-read James 5:9

James makes it clear that God’s people should not be fighting with each other. “Grumbling” really just means to complain or protest something or someone. Are you guilty of grumbling against your friends, or parents, or teachers? How can you do better today?

November 24 – 1 Peter 1

Re-read 1 Peter 1:16

The Apostle Peter writes to a group of Christians about living to please Christ. One thing that is key to this is "holiness." God is holy, this means that he is perfectly good. Knowing what you do about God, what are some things that you do that make you "unholy"? What are some things that you can do today to be more like God?

November 25 – 1 Peter 2

Re-read 1 Peter 2:13,17

Peter doesn't want the people to be confused. They are still supposed to respect and obey the authorities over them. It is no different for us. Who are some people God has placed in authority over you? How can you obey them better?

November 26 – 1 Peter 3

Re-read 1 Peter 3:15

We know that not everyone thinks that Jesus is God or that they should obey him. Because of this, we need to be ready to tell others the truth about God. We are to share about him with "gentleness and respect." Some times this is hard, but why is it so important?

November 27 – 1 Peter 4

Re-read 1 Peter 4:8

It is clear, if you love God, you need to be loving people too! When it says that love "covers" sin, it doesn't mean it takes it away or excuses bad behavior, but it means that love forgives. When someone wrongs you, the loving thing to do is to forgive that person, and treat them as if they hadn't wronged you. Who are some people you need to forgive?

November 28 – 1 Peter 5

Re-read 1 Peter 5:5

Peter calls the younger people to “be subject” to the older people. This means to listen to, respect, and obey them. Once again we see the phrase that we saw before in James 4:6, which told us that God wants us to be humble. How can you be more humble with the people in charge of you: parents/coaches/teachers/leaders?

November 29 – 2 Peter 1

Re-read 2 Peter 1:3

In his second book, Peter reminds the people that God provides everything we need to live in obedience to him. He gives us the Bible, complete with all his commandments. Are you thankful for this? Do you show your thanksgiving by reading his word everyday? How can you do better this week?

November 30 – 2 Peter 2

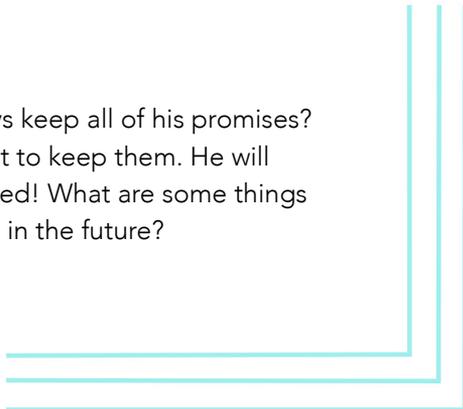
Re-read 2 Peter 2:1

This whole chapter is about people taking God’s words, and “twisting” them to say and mean what they want them to, not what God actually meant for them to say. These people are known as “false teachers.” What happens to the truth of God’s word when people change it? Do you know of any examples of this?

December 1 – 2 Peter 3

Re-read 2 Peter 3:9

Isn’t it good that God will always keep all of his promises? He doesn’t forget or choose not to keep them. He will complete everything he promised! What are some things he promises that will come true in the future?



December 2 – 1 John 1

Re-read 1 John 1:9

This one amazing promise! Here in 1 John, it is clear that even in the life of a Christian, there is still sin. But God wants people to confess their sin. He wants them to agree that it is wrong, and to tell him that! God wants people to turn away from the sin that they commit and turn to him. When you sin, are you quick to ask God for forgiveness? How can you do this more often?

December 3 – 1 John 2

Re-read 1 John 2:15-17

This section talks about “the world.” You probably know that the earth is full of sin. People, because of their sin, don’t want to obey God. What are you tempted by the most in your life? How can you choose obedience to God instead?

December 4 – 1 John 3

Re-read 1 John 3:16

Real love is a high expectation! This Bible verse says that we should be laying our lives down for each other. This doesn’t only mean being willing to do something for someone that we may not really want to do, and it means we’ll need to give up some of our free time for other people. It means being available to do something for others when it will help them. It means other people’s needs or wants come before your own. How can you do something for someone you know today that doesn’t benefit you at all?