

“Be a Doer and Just Not a Hearer!!”

By Bob Heitzer

Sunday, October 28th 2012

I am thankful to be a part of this ministry, Christian Fellowship, for 33 years today! Thirty-three years ago today I went up in an altar call, and I didn't even wait for the pastor to announce the altar call, I just went up. I got baptized in a horse trough in the basement of a church—we had to break ice in the trough to do the baptism. I am thankful for all of the Bible Studies, lectures, and sermons that I was able to apply to my life on a daily basis! I am thankful for all of the trials, tests, good times, hard times, ups, down, and etc. This all made me what I am today—Saved!

All of my Scriptures today come from the book of James, chapter one.

James 1:2-4 ...count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations...

Why should I count that *joy* when I fall into temptation? Why do cliff-divers leave that nice, safe cliff to dive into the water? Do you know that when a caterpillar builds a cocoon, and then changes into a butterfly, and then tries to push his way back out of that cocoon, we shouldn't help it? If we help it, then it will never fly—it needs to struggle against the cocoon to build up the strength in its wings. Divers temptations will make us stronger in God!

James 1:5-7 ...he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed...

If you lack wisdom, take notes in service, bible studies, fellowshipping, lectures, etc. revisit those notes with others and apply to daily living. Our faith has to be solid; we can't be like waves in the sea.

James 1:8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

This isn't just talking about trying to serve God and the devil at the same time—it is talking about that, but it's talking about other things, too—How many times have I promised God something and then didn't so it? That's double-mindedness, too. I can do better.

Do you remember the four letter word that Brother Ken talked about a few weeks ago? Work. There is work to be done... be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only.

James 1:17-18 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above...

I used to think that this was talking about every good gift, but it also says, “every perfect gift.” This also includes sermons, by the way. The question is, “What are you going to do with it?” If you don't use it, you lose it.

James 1:22-24 But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only...

Do you want a new building? We'll have to outgrow this place first. I know we're inviting people out, but God's not going to give us a new building until we have too many people to fit in here every Sunday morning.