

## 4

## WEEK

## DAY ONE

I want to start this week by answering the question: “why”? Why are you being called to take action? Didn’t you already do that on your trip? Why are you challenged to commit yourself to acting on the things you have learned the past few weeks? Let’s see what the Bible has to say.

Take a second and read the passage below. Before you do, this is Jesus’ (earthly) brother, James speaking. James was the unofficial leader of the church in Jerusalem. Check out what he says here:

“[22] But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. [23] For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. [24] For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. [25] But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.”  
- James 1:22-25

Look closely at verse 22. James makes a huge statement here. He says that when we study God’s Word and learn of what God expects from us, we have to put that knowledge to use. We actually have to do what we know. And if we don’t? James says it’s like we’re kidding ourselves. In fact, in verses 23 and 24, James highlights how crazy it is to know what God wants us to do and not do it. He says it’s as crazy as it would be if we looked at ourselves in the mirror and then immediately forgot what we looked like.

James wraps up by saying we are blessed if we are a “doer who acts.” This is the heart of what you’re challenged to do this week. You know that God wants to use your life to change the world. If you don’t act on this, you’re failing to be what God intends you to be. It’s that simple.

Think for a moment on how this truth impacts your life. Think about the questions below, and record your responses if you want.

1. What are some reasons for why we're often hesitant to act on what we know about God and His call on our lives?

2. When it comes to God's mission, when we don't do what we know we're supposed to, what do we miss out on?

3. Can you think of a time when God clearly called you to do something but you didn't follow through? Why didn't you act? How does it make you feel thinking about it?

4. Take a moment and write a prayer to God, asking Him to give you the courage and will to act on what you know to be His plan for your life. Ask Him to make you a powerful resource in His plan to spread the Gospel with the world.