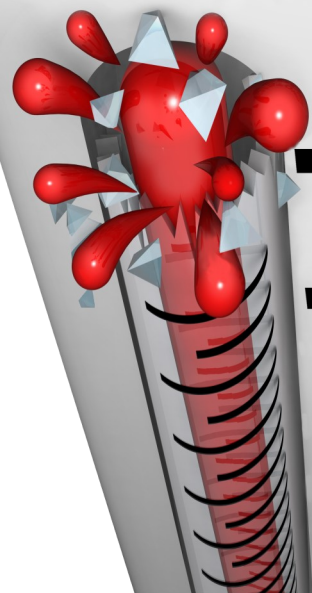


FULLY DEVOTED!



- **Dedicated**

- **Committed**

- **Obligated**

- **Expected**

Karns Church of Christ
2015 Fall Advance

Schedule

FRIDAY

- 8:30 — Keynote #1
- 9:15 — Small groups
- 9:30 — Games
- 10:15 — Snacks
- 10:30 — Free Time
- 12:00 — BED TIME!!!

SATURDAY

- 8:30 — Breakfast
- 9:30 — Keynote #2
- 10:15 — Small groups
- 10:30 — Break
- 10:45 — Class Session #1
- 11:15 — Small groups
- 11:30 — Break
- 11:45 — Class Session #2
- 12:15 — Small groups
- 12:45 — Lunch
- 2:00 — Free time (activities, field games, nap, hike, etc.)
- 5:30 — Clean up
- 6:00 — Supper
- 7:00 — Keynote #3
- 8:30 — Games
- 9:30 — Snacks
- 10:00 — Free time in the Cross Center
- 12:00 — BED TIME!!!

SUNDAY

- 9:00 — Breakfast
- 10:00 — Worship
- 11:00 — Clean up/load trailer
- 12:00 — Lunch
- 12:45 — Load bus/head home
- 3:00 — Arrive in Karns

FULLY DEVOTED: A Study of James

Welcome!

We are so glad you made the decision to attend our annual Fall ADVANCE this year. We pray this weekend will be a blessing to you and in your walk with God. We want nothing more than to see you grow and mature into a faithful follower of Jesus. If we can be of any help to you this weekend, please let one of the adults know.

Have a great weekend at Fall ADVANCE 2015.

We love you!

The ADVANCE
Staff and Teachers

Friday Keynote 1: *FULLY DEVOTED During Trials and Temptations* (Jam. 1:1-18)

- Point: Full devotion is seen through how we deal with any trials and temptation we face.
- Speaker: Demetrius Desnoes

Saturday A.M. Keynote 2: *FULLY DEVOTED in Love* (Jam. 2:1-13)

- Point: Full devotion means we love all people in spite of who they are or what they do.
- Speaker: Don Scott

Saturday A.M. Class 1: *FULLY DEVOTED in Faith and Works* (2:14-26)

- Point: Full devotion is about living out our faith on a daily basis.
- Speaker: Caleb Taylor

Saturday A.M. Class 2: *FULLY DEVOTED in Speech* (Jam. 3:1-12)

- Point: Full devotion is evident in the way we speak and use our words.
- Speaker: Gregg Woodall

Saturday P.M. Keynote 3: *FULLY DEVOTED in Listening and Doing* (Jam. 1:19-27)

- Point: Full devotion is about not only hearing what God says, but doing it even when it seems hard.
- Speaker: Todd Monahan

Sunday A.M.: *FULLY DEVOTED Right Here, Right Now* (Jam. 4:13-17)

- Point: Full devotion isn't put off for a more convenient time. It begins right now.
- Speaker: Justin Morton

FULLY DEVOTED: *During Trials and Temptations*

James 1:1-18

Speaker: Demetrius Desnoes

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Christians are followers of Christ and agree to submit to Him in aspect of their lives.
- B. Challenges present the Christian with the proper means to display lively faith in Christ.
- C. Christ offers Himself to those who have problems and to the weary (Matthew 28:11).
- D. Christians must be aware of the craftiness of Satan during troublesome times (1 Peter 5:8).

ADVERSITY DEVELOPS ATTITUDE (James 1:1-4)

- A. Trials ought to create cheer among Christians and incite a zealous attitude for the Lord.
- B. Patience has to be active in order for it to equip us with what we as Christians need.
- C. Endurance is essential for a successful walk with Christ (Matthew 24:13).
- D. Through trials the Christian is provided an opportunity to display loyalty to Christ.

DEPENDING ON THE DELIVERER (James 1:5-11)

- A. Christians cannot prevail in their struggles without God and must desire His guidance.
- B. True faith allows us to trust in God without wavering.
- C. Humility is the avenue God uses to bless His people (Luke 14:11).

TEMPTATION ENDS IN TESTIMONY (James 1:12-18)

- A. Enduring the attraction of evilness will grant Christians what God has always promised.
- B. God will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we can bear (1 Corinthians 10:13).
- C. In effort to remain in good standing with God, temptation must remain temptation.
- D. Our testimonies will give us the experience needed to aid others (2 Corinthians 1:4-7).

CONCLUSION:

- A. Trials and temptations test our faith and determine how devoted we are to Christ.
- B. Patience has to be active and consistently practiced for a successful walk with Christ.
- C. God will supply what we need in times of trouble if we ask Him in faith.
- D. As Christians it is our duty to provide others with encouragement as they face trials.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why is it important for us to rejoice when we encounter challenges?
2. What is the difference between active patience and passive patience?

3. List some examples of daily temptations and how to avoid acting on them?

4. In order to receive blessings from God in trials what attitude should we have?

5. How can we use our trials to benefit the lives of others?

FULLY DEVOTED: *In Love*

James 2:1-13

Speaker: Don Scott

SPIRITUAL SNOBBERY

- A. Most of us have an unpublished list of the type of people we want to be around.
- B. Honor among men. Who? When? Where?
- C. Partiality = Prejudice

PARTIALITY IN THE BIBLE

- A. Levitical Law
- B. New Testament: Peter
- C. New Testament: Paul
- D. New Testament: Jesus

KEEPING THE ROYAL LAW

- A. "Royal Law" = "Golden Rule"
- B. One crime makes a criminal
- C. Mercy triumphs over judgment

CONCLUSION

- A. Matthew 6:15
- B. Matthew 7:2
- C. Full devotion to Christ requires love for all mankind

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does it feel to be a visitor in Bible class or worship?
2. What can you do to accommodate a visitor in Bible class or worship?
3. Is it always wrong to honor some people differently than others?
4. What is the "law of liberty?" (James 2:12)
5. What does "mercy triumphs over judgment" mean? (James 2:13)

FULLY DEVOTED: *In Faith and Works*

James 2:14-26

Speaker: Caleb Taylor

INTRODUCTION:

- A. In the context of chapter two of Romans, Paul is writing to Jews who essentially thought that they had an excuse when it came to the judgment on the last days. Paul is assuring them that there is no excuse when it comes to the final days, all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23).
- B. God is a righteous and just God (Rom. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9; 1 Tim. 2:4).
- C. However, the most important thing for us to know is that all mankind is worth an infinite amount of love that was shown for us by the death on the cross.

JUDGED BY ACTIONS (Romans 2:6, 10-11; James 2:14ff)

- A. A time will come in our lives when we have to answer for the things that we have done in this life (John 5:28-29; 2 Cor. 5:10).
- B. It is a humbling thought to know that one day all of us will have to stand before an all knowing, and all present being and give account for what we have done in this life.

REWARDS OF RIGHTEOUS ACTIONS (Romans 2:7, 10a; James 2:20-25)

- A. If we persist in doing good and righteous things, we will receive the reward. (2 Tim. 4:7; Matt. 16:27).

- B. We ought to live our lives doing good based upon the faith we have in Christ (Acts 10:38; James 2).

CONSEQUENCES OF UNRIGHTEOUS ACTIONS (Rom. 2:8-9)

- A. Opposite of those who are seeking the reward of God are those who are actually seeking their own selfish ambitions and this will lead to the wrath and fury.
- B. No one can escape the judgment (Romans 2:10b, 11).

CONCLUSION:

- A. Understanding that God shows no partiality and that salvation is for all men, it should give us all the more reason to have the utmost respect and fear for God.
 - B. Let us never lose sight in doing good, not to the extent that we are earning our salvation, but the type of work that is done because of our faithfulness that James talks about in James 2.
 - C. Let us not grow weary in well doing (Gal. 6:9). God didn't save us to sit, he saved us to serve.
-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between meritorious works and works of faith?
2. How are we justified by faith and by works?

3. What was the main point Paul was trying to get across in Romans 2?
4. What is the purpose of doing works as a Christian?
5. Who was the Old Testament character(s) that Paul and James referred to, and how was he or she justified?

Fully DEVOTED: *In Speech*

James 3:1-12

Speaker: Gregg Woodall

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Here we find a warning against too many becoming teachers (3:1-2).
- B. We also find a discourse on the untamable tongue (3:3-12).
- C. In a time where "verbal abuse" is often epidemic, and where "self-proclaimed teachers" engage in all sorts of heated religious discussions, there is much we can learn from this passage.

THE "WARNING" (vs. 1-2)

- A. "LET NOT MANY OF YOU BECOME TEACHERS" (Romans 12:3-8; I Cor. 12:12-31).
- B. Teachers shall receive "a stricter judgment."
- C. We all "stumble in many things."

THE UNTAMABLE TONGUE (vs. 3-6)

- A. A small member (like the tongue) can control the body.
- B. If you speak a lie, it won't be long before you find yourself living a lie.
- C. If you speak suggestively in an immoral manner, it won't be long before you begin acting immorally!
- D. A small fire can easily cause great destruction.

- E. A loose tongue can ruin one's reputation.
- F. A loose tongue can also destroy churches, families and friendships.
- G. In describing an uncontrolled tongue, James uses very vivid terms to make his point.

THE DIFFICULTY OF TAMING THE TONGUE (7-12)

- A. Despite being able to tame wild animals, man is unable to tame the tongue.
- B. No man by himself can tame the tongue, but with God's help, he can (Psa. 141:3; Eph. 4:29).
- C. As a further example of how difficult it is to tame the tongue, James uses a very common (and relevant) problem of blessing God and cursing men.
 - 1. We can spend time in worship, blessing God, but in driving home we might curse men (drivers) who pull out in front of us.
 - 2. Racists and bigots are often guilty of "blessing God and cursing men."
 - 3. What comes forth is a true indication of what is inside (Mk. 7:20-23).

CONCLUSION:

- A. These examples of the misuse of the tongue should humble and caution all those who would become teachers.
- B. But they should also serve as a warning for us all, whether we teach or not, that we need to seek God's help in controlling the tongue!

- C. May David's prayer be our own: *Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer* (Psa. 19:14).
-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- A. Have you had trouble with your tongue?
- B. What are the circumstances that have caused you the most trouble controlling your tongue?
- C. What are ways you can gain better control of your speech?
- D. What are ways you can avoid inappropriate speech?
- E. Have you given much thought to becoming a teacher for Christ?

Fully DEVOTED: *In Listening and Doing*

James 1:19-27

Speaker: Todd Monahan

SELF-CONTROL – James 1:19-20

A. “Be quick to listen” – we can obviously apply this to our interpersonal relationships.

1. Ready and willing to listen to the word of God.
2. “The preacher never says anything I haven’t heard before” mindset.
 - ◇ Examine ourselves in every Bible class, worship service, personal Bible study
 - ◇ Bible study is the linchpin in Christian growth
 - ◇ Linchpin – something that appears small but has great importance
 - Wheel – moving forward
 - Faith is not idle – Faith moves forward or backward
 - Used to keep a wheel attached to an axle
3. Study gives food for growth and allows the living soul to grow and move forward
4. Diligently study God’s word and you will be blessed in mind, body and soul

B. “Be slow to speak”

1. We shouldn’t take a Christian’s responsibility lightly and speak without proper knowledge
 - ◇ 2 Cor. 5:20 - A Christian is an ambassador or spokesperson for God/Jesus

- ◇ The scriptures reveal the confidence we need to speak the Gospel

2. Opinions/Ignorance

- ◇ Dangerous, many times in opposition of God’s word.
- ◇ “I think or I feel that God...”

3. Moses’ answer to a question he did not know the answer to:

- ◇ Numbers 9:8 – “...Wait, and I will listen to what the Lord will command concerning you.”
- ◇ There is nothing wrong, in fact, it is respectable to say I don’t know but I will find out.

C. “Slow to anger”

1. Anger leads to spiritual destruction

- ◇ Matt. 5:22 – “...I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty...”
- ◇ James 1:20 – “for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.”
- ◇ 1 Pet. 2:23 – “...while suffering, He (Jesus) uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously.”

2. 2 Tim. 2:24-26

- ◇ Vs. 24 – “...must not be quarrelsome...”
- ◇ Vs 25 – “with gentleness...”
- ◇ Vs 26 – “and they may come to their senses...”
– **gentle and humble teaching leads to correction**

Application: When we are quick to listen, the result is we become slow to speak. When we listen and are not looking to get in “the last word” it manifests a response that results in the absence of anger.

“PUTTING ASIDE ALL FILTHINESS” - JAMES 1:21

- A. A Christian must put aside the world’s filth to be a teaching vessel and not deaf to the Word.
- B. The world’s filth is prevalent in our culture.
 - 1. Music, movies, speech, self-made idols
 - 2. Rev. 19:8 - Purity is a special thing that leads to righteousness – **The blood of Christ cleans to perfect whiteness**

“IN HUMILITY, ACCEPT THE WORD, WHICH IS ABLE TO SAVE YOU” – JAMES 1:21

- A. Humility is a necessity to a Christian.
 - 1. Humility results in understanding our need for Christ.
 - 2. Humility results in repentance.
- B. The word saves us
 - 1. Hearing is how we learn of the “word of God” and believe.
 - 2. Rom. 10:17 – “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

DOING WHAT THE WORDS SAYS – James 1:22

- A. Hearing
 - 1. Have you attended a class and attempted your homework and have no idea what to do?
 - 2. A child that chooses not to obey but hears the instruction or request.

- 3. Personal Trainer – can we expect changes if we don’t act on the recommendations?

B. Doing – Acting on what you hear or are instructed to do

- 1. Matt. 7:26 – “And everyone who hears these words of Mine, and does not act upon them, will be like a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand.”
- 2. Is there any good in learning a new skill but you are unable to apply your knowledge?
 - ◇ Waste of time?
 - College degree but unable to read
 - A certified mechanic can’t change a flat tire or do a simple oil change

THE PERSON IN THE MIRROR – James 1:23-25

- A. What does the mirror represent? – The word of God
 - 1. The Bible makes us aware of our sin.
 - 2. Rom. 7:7 – “...I would not have come to know about sin, except through the Law...”
- B. Looking into the mirror or “the perfect law of liberty”, **vs. 25** should cause us to change our lives or maintain our Christian foundation.

GLANCE OR LOOKING VS. LOOKING INTENTLY AND CONTINUING TO DO SO – WHICH ONE ARE YOU?

- A. A quick glance or a simple look.
 - 1. Have you ever looked over your notes for a test?
 - 2. What is the typical outcome?
- B. Intense study or abiding/remaining/remembers
 - 1. Is there a difference? – The obvious answer is yes
 - ◇ Comparison of studying for a test to memory, walking into a test with full confidence

- ◇ The outcome is a high passing grade vs. guessing and getting lucky to pass but probably failing
2. **Vs. 25** - What is the perfect law, the perfect law of liberty?
 - ◇ The “perfect law” in **vs. 25** is the same as the “word” in **vs. 22**, “which is the word of truth” in **vs. 18**, leads to salvation in **vs. 21**.
 - ◇ The perfect law of liberty is the gospel
 3. **Psalm 19:7** – “The law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul.”

TRUE RELIGION – James 1:16, 27

- A. Our speech
 1. **Vs. 19**, slow to speak, **vs. 26**, “bridle his tongue”, **chapter 3** and **chapter 4:11,12** James continues to address our speech.
 2. Failure to control our tongue or speech goes against our heart, **vs. 26**.
 3. Our religion or obedience to God is shown in how we talk.
- B. Helping the helpless
 1. The Good Samaritan parable
 2. Pure and undefiled religion imitates the Father by helping the helpless
 3. Charity to those who need it
 - ◇ Orphans and Widows
 - ◇ More importantly, all those we see have a need and we can provide the resources

UNSTAINED BY THE WORLD - Unstained or being polluted by the world includes:

- A. Receiving instruction through study and acting on it through our “faith in action”
 - B. Imitating God’s love for all.
 1. **2 Pet. 3:9** – “...not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance”
 2. **John 13:34** – “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have love you, that you also love one another.”
-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why is it important to be quick to listen and slow to speak? What are the benefits of adopting this practice and attitude in our daily communication with others? What are the benefits in our spiritual survival and our effectiveness in sharing the good news of the gospel?
2. What are the dangers of anger? What are the future hurdles personal anger can cause?
3. Can we be found righteous by hearing the word? Can we be saved by being a faithful attendant at worship services, bible studies and other church functions?
4. Why is Bible study important? What are the benefits? Is there a negative to studying the Bible?
5. What is pure and undefiled religion? What does it mean to be religious? Is that enough for our salvation or does God expect us to be more than an outward, religious Christian?

FULLY DEVOTED: *Right Here, Right Now*

James 4:13-17

Speaker: Justin Morton

INTRODUCTION:

- A. What's important to you in life?
- B. What's important to you is evident by the **plans** you make and the **actions** you take.
- C. Is being FULLY DEVOTED to Jesus really important to you? If so are you making plans and taking actions to be FULLY DEVOTED to Jesus as you travel through this life?

MAKING PLANS (v. 13, 15, 16)

- A. When you make plans for your life, what kind of plans are you making?
- B. Where is God when we make our plans? (Luke 12:16-21).
- C. Our devotion to the Lord should drive us in every aspect of our lives. It should be seen through our actions and plans.

THE COST OF THE WRONG PLANS (v. 14)

- A. Life is Uncertain - "You do not know what tomorrow will bring..." (Proverbs 27:1).
- B. Life is Meaningful - "What is your life?" (I Corinthians 15:33).
- C. Life is Short - "For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes away." (Psa. 90:12).

DELAYING OUR PLANS (v. 17)

- A. Some live by the motto, "Why do today what you can put off till tomorrow."
- B. We know the right thing to do in life. We know what God expects of us.
- C. When we know we should live devoted lives to the Lord and we failed to live our lives in such a manner, we are guilty of sin.

CONCLUSION:

- A. What's important to us is evident by the **plans** we make and the **actions** we take.
- B. Can you imagine what would happen if each one of us left here today and actually lived FULLY DEVOTED lives to Jesus? Can you image the impact we might have on others?
- C. Can you leave here this weekend and honestly say, "My LIFE is FULLY DEVOTED to Jesus!"

Notes

Notes

Enjoyed **Fall ADVANCE**
So Much You Don't Want
It To End?

It Doesn't Have To!

Spring ADVANCE 2016

April 22nd-24th
Pickett State Park

Mark Your Calendar



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