

CULTIVATING A RECEPTIVE HEART

19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. 21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.



TESTING Faith's Best Friend! (John Piper)

Three Tests of Faith



TRIALS TEMPTATIONS TRUTH



Our Response To God's Word

RECEPTION

21 ... humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

REACTION

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

18 He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

James 1

13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ...

Ephesians 1







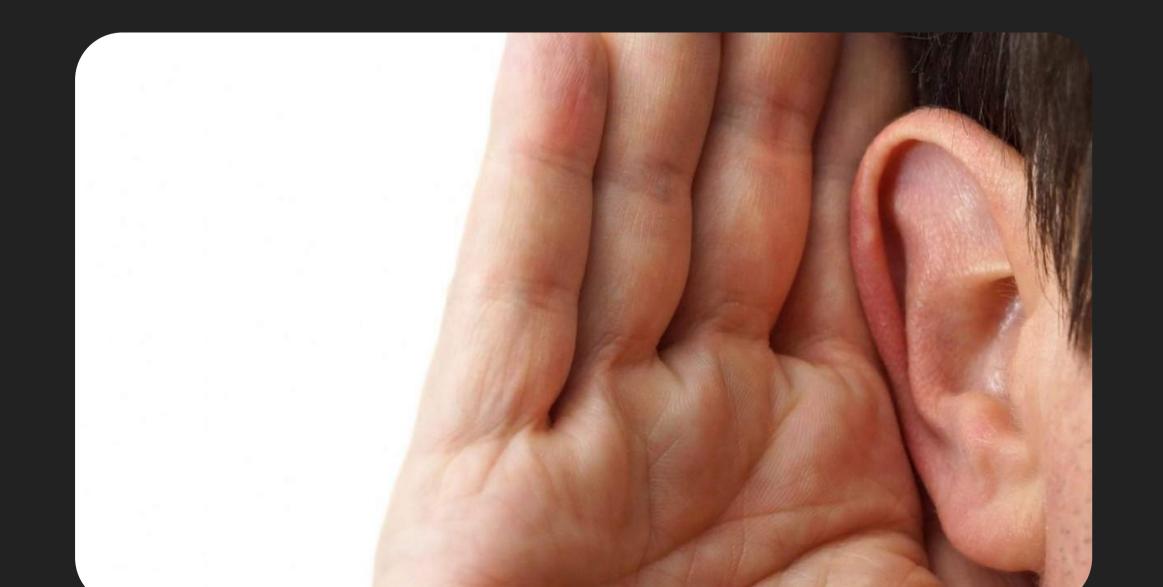
A RECEPTIVE HEART



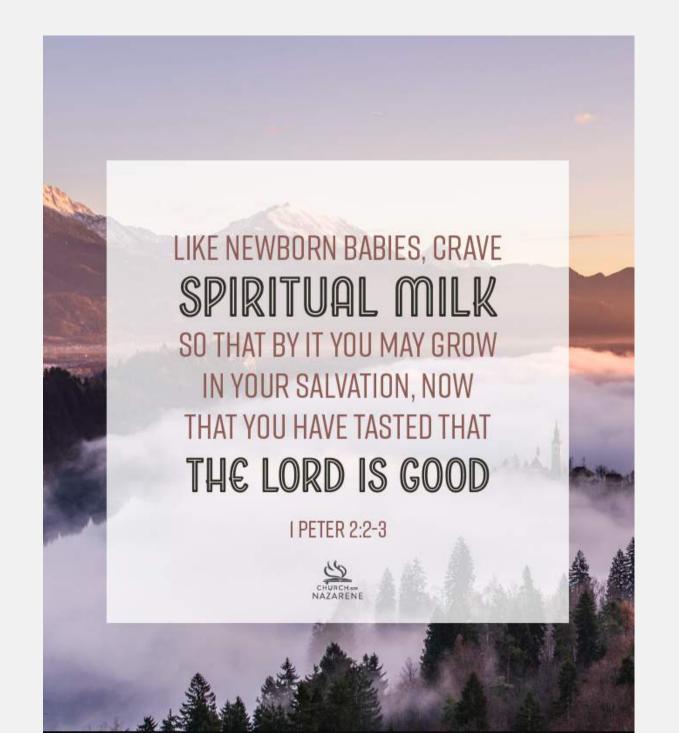


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Everyone should be quick to listen



Crave Spiritual Milk





10 They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.

Proverby 19

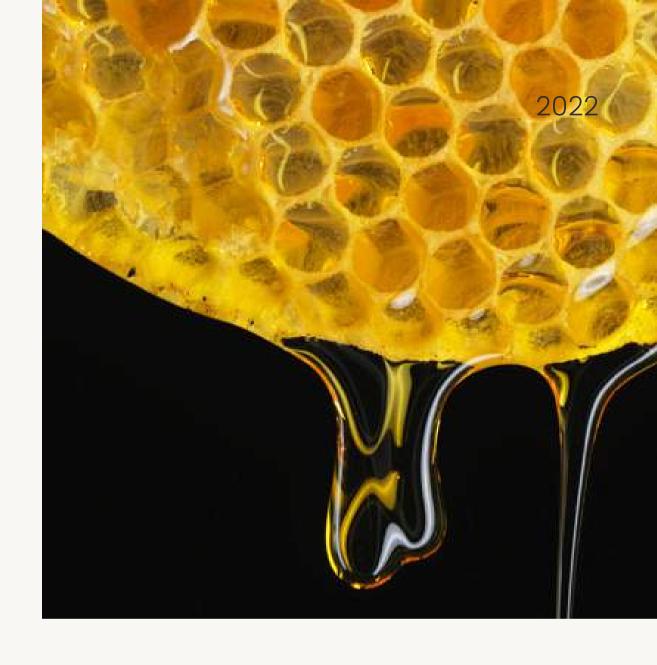


Psafn 119: 99-100

Wiser than my enemies

More insight than all my teachers

More understanding than the elders



131 I open my mouth and pant, longing for your commands. (Psalm 119)

Everyone should be ...

Ecclesiastes 5

1 Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong. 2 Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few. 3 A dream comes when there are many cares, and many words mark the speech of a fool.

slow to speak...



Proverbs 17

27 He who has knowledge spares his words,

Proverbs 10

19 In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise.

Everyone should be slow to anger



Proverbs 14

29 One who is slow to anger has great understanding; But one who is quick-tempered exalts foolishness.

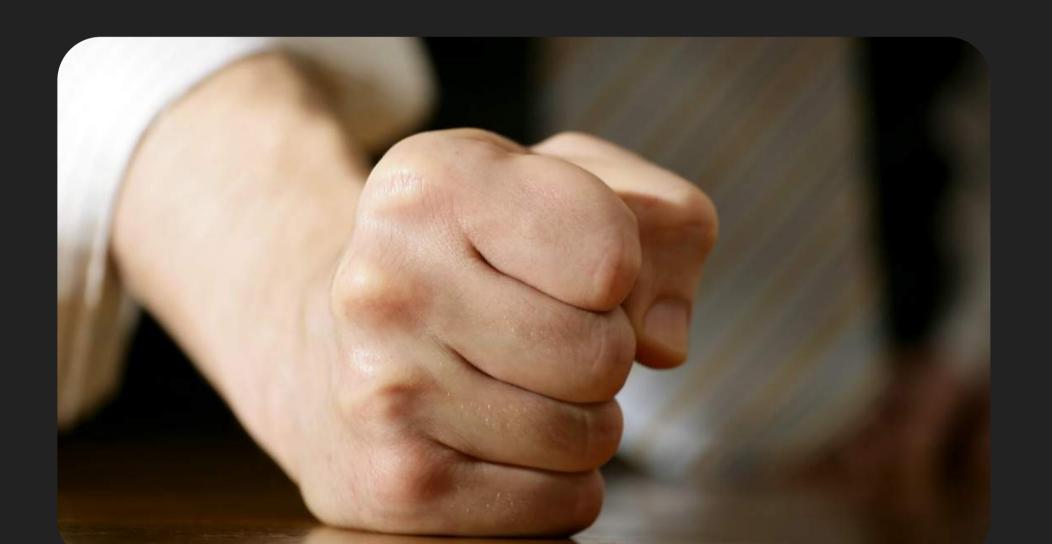
Kent Hughes

"An angry spirit is never a listening, teachable spirit."

Steven J Cole

A teachable heart has stopped fighting angrily against God. Rather, it submits to God.

Everyone should be slow to anger



James 1

20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Ephesians 4

26 'In your anger do not sin': do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold.

JAMES 1

21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

GET RID OF ALL

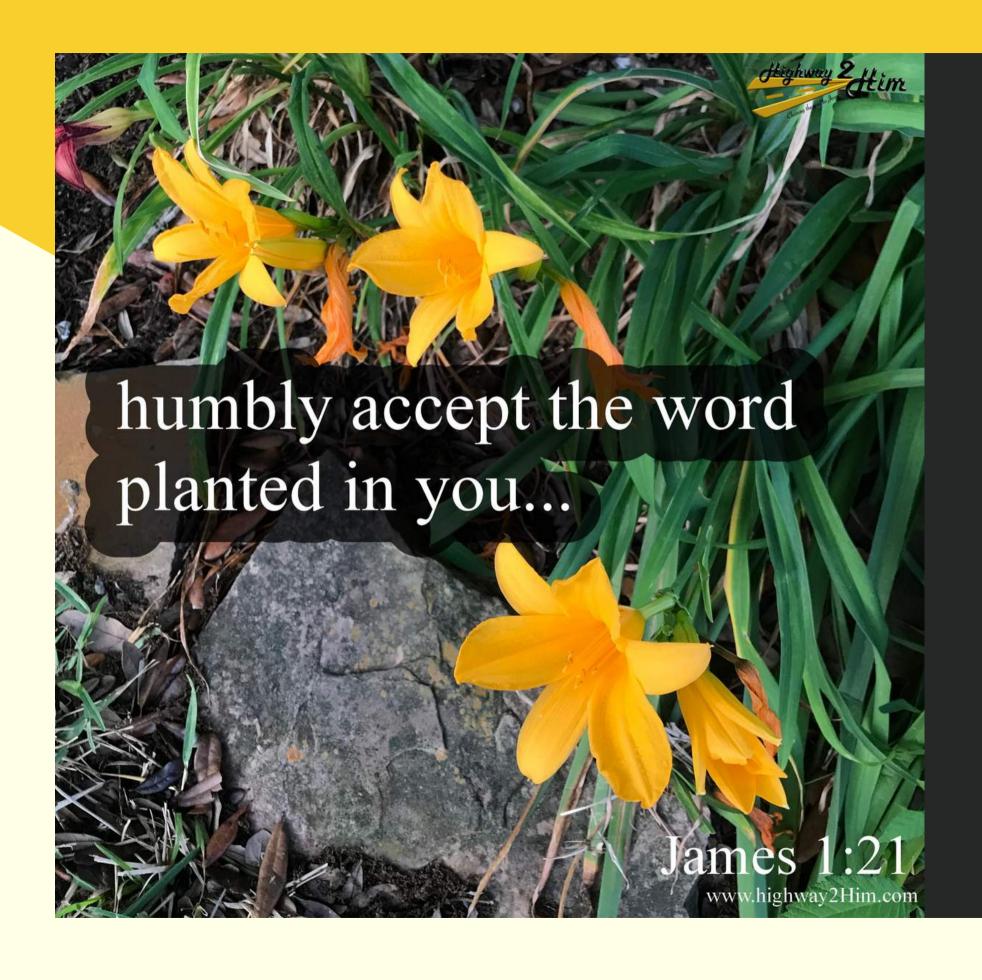
... moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent



BREAK UP YOUR UNPLOUGHED GROUND

... and do not sow among thorns. (Jeremiah 4:3)





... receive with meekness the implanted word NKJV



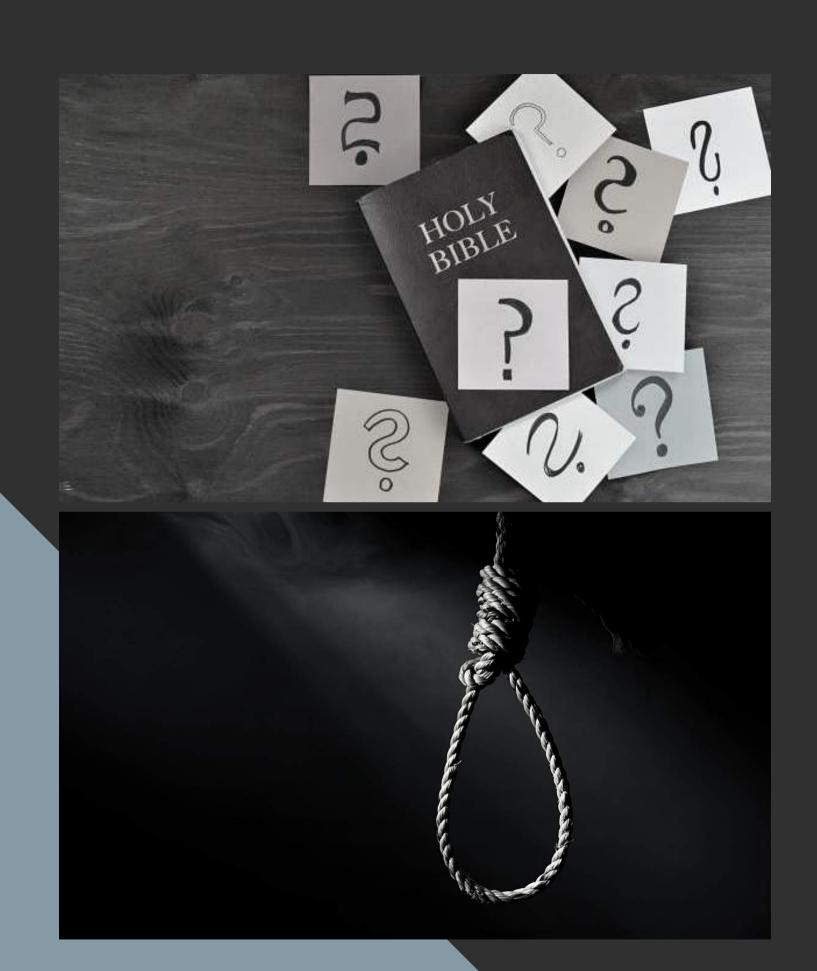
"... humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you."

James 1

MATTHEW 7

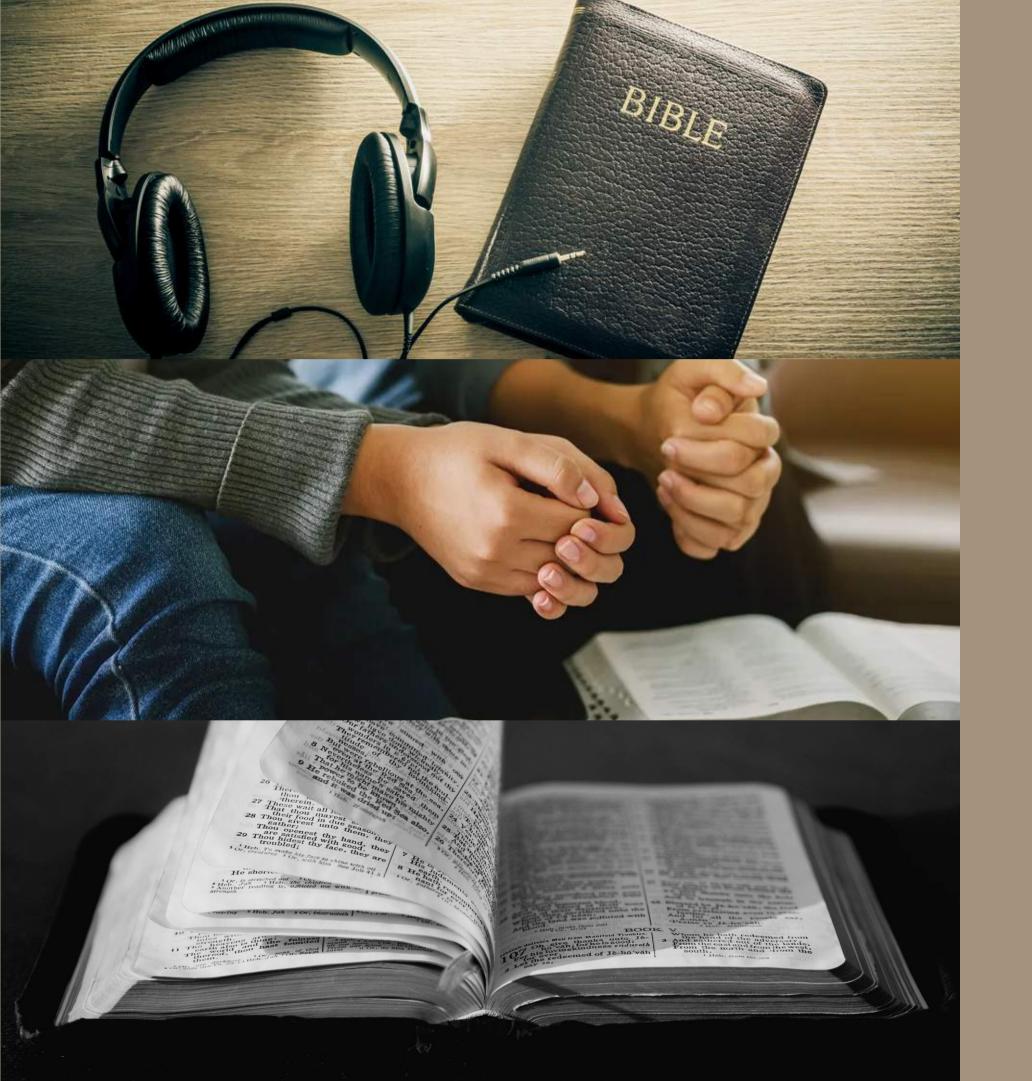
21 'Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?" 23 Then I will tell them plainly, "I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!"





CAN YOU PASS THIS BIBLE QUIZ IF YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT?





STEVEN J COLE

If your heart is apathetic to God's word, James says, "Be quick to hear." If you're prone to spout off arrogantly with how much you know, James says, "Be slow to speak." If you're fighting some aspect of the word that you don't like, James says, "Be slow to anger." If you're tolerating the crud of sin, James says, "Put aside all filthiness." If you're resisting God's commands that are designed to rescue you from sin, James says, "In humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls."