

FAMILY LESSONS ON
THE MIRROR OF TRUTH

Based on James 1:23-24

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LESSON #1

MIRROR, MIRROR

**“Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says
is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself,
goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.”**

James 1:23-24 (NIV84)

One of the subjects I studied in college was art. During one of my drawing courses, I had to make a self-portrait using a mirror. When I was finished, I was pleased with the results because the portrait looked a lot like me. If I had tried to draw from memory without using a mirror, the results would not have been the same. The mirror revealed many details about my appearance and gave me a more accurate view of myself.

God tells us that reading the Bible is a lot like that. “Anyone who listens to the word... is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror...” (James 1:23). That says that the Word of God, like a mirror, tells us the truth about ourselves. You see, the Bible doesn’t just tell us about God, and heaven, and far away things; it also tells us about our own heart. The mirror on the wall, the one we use to comb our hair, tells us what we look like on the outside. It’s the mirror that says, “Your hair is messed up.” But the mirror of truth, God’s Word, tells us what we look like on the inside. It’s the mirror that says, “Your heart is messed up.” This is important, because God is always concerned about what our heart looks like. God once said to the prophet Samuel, “...The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7). Isn’t it wonderful that God gave us His Word to show us what our heart looks like?

What are some things the Bible tells you about your heart (Hebrews 4:12)?

For additional study materials on the Bonus Verse and a copy of the “Ten Step Bible Memory Method for Life,” go to www.icsva.org/student-life/bonus-verse on the Immanuel Christian School website.