Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. April 29, 2018

**The Great Deception**

James 1:19-27

**Key truth:** Our faith is revealed in our obedience not just in mere words.

**The Proper Soil For The Seed Of The Word To Grow:**
1. A willingness to hear.

2. A calm spirit.

 A. Anger works against what God is seeking to produce in us.

3. A clean heart.

4. A humble attitude.

**Moving From Theory To Practice:**

1. The proper response to hearing the Word of God is obedience.

 Matthew 7:24-27, 11:15, Romans 2:13

2. The great deception is that the Bible is a book to only be heard

 and not a book to be obeyed. Psalm 119:105

 A. The more we hear the word and the less we obey widens

 the gap of our sanctification.

 B. A misinterpretation of 2 Timothy 2:14 has led to an over

 emphasis on gathering information rather than application

 of the Word.

3. The blessed life for a disciple is in acting on what you hear.

 Psalm 1:1-3

**The Outward Expression Of An Obedient Life:**

1. Controlling what comes out of your mouth. Matthew 15:8-11

2. Caring for the least in our society.

3. Refusing to conform to the value system of this world.

**Taking it Beyond the Walls:** Obey what you just heard. Thank God for the strength He gives us to obey.

**CONNECTION GROUP HOMEWORK**

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Read Matthew 21:28-32: What was the key difference in the two sons? What was Jesus trying to teach the religious leaders regarding righteousness?

Read Hebrews 5:11-14: The writer talks about the importance of moving to maturity in our faith by moving from “milk” to “solid food.” This is often thought to mean that the key to growth is to get into serious Bible study. As you go back and read this passage, what is it really saying about what it takes to get the “solid food”?

How does your answer tie in with this week’s message?

Read the passages and make a list of all the benefits of being receptive to God's Word.

Psalm 1:1-3

Psalm 19:7-11

Psalm 119:97-104

Which of these benefits have you experienced in your life?

Which of these benefits of interacting with and obeying the Bible is most motivational to you?

What changes could you make to experience even more of these benefits?