

## Oceanside Connect Group Outline

Week of April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016



### Key Scriptures:

James 1:22–25 (ESV)

<sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. <sup>25</sup> 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.

Matthew 7:24–27 (ESV)

<sup>24</sup> “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup> And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. <sup>27</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

### Discussion questions from this week’s sermon

Is your general approach to life "just get 'er done" or more "lets get a plan first"?

If you were to ask your coworkers or friends would they say Christians are more concerned with doing what the Bible says or debating what it says?

Read James 1:22-25. Can you give a practical example of how you have deceived yourself in the past by hearing God only and not acting on His instructions?

What problems can develop for a Christian who becomes only concerned about outward appearances?

What does James mean by "the perfect law, the law of liberty" here? Is he advocating a return to Old Testament rituals and traditions?

What might it look like to be "blessed in your doing" by God?

Read Matthew 7:24-27. What is the difference here between the wise builder and the foolish builder? Why does Jesus use this picture and can you elaborate on it?

Why is it that some things in a Christian's life don't get revealed until a storm comes?

Have you found that the “storms” in your life have revealed some weaknesses in its foundations? What have you done to try and correct that?

Has being a part of a Connect Group at Oceanside helped you find any weak points in your foundations? As a group, how can we support and strengthen each other in this area?