

JUST DO IT!

Mobile phones have changed from the original cell phone to the current smartphone - iPhone.

Cell Phones make calls, send texts and can access the internet. It's a cheaper alternative to a smartphone.

Smartphones are small computers that can make and receive calls. Includes a digital assistant like Siri. Has a sophisticated operating system with customised options.

Smartphones have made life less complicated, but have they robbed us of some of life's basics? **EG:** *Easier to message than to talk.*

- Aussies average 2.5 hrs p/dy = 38 days p/yr.
- Most smartphones connect to a virtual store to download APPS.
- APPS makes less complicated.

The Bible is full of lifestyle APPS.

- Life applications that Christ Followers are to practise in their lives.
- We obey Biblical teachings because of our relationship with Jesus.

Because of Jesus' sacrifice for us, we willingly surrender our lives to Him, by applying His lifestyle applications.

The New Testament teaches that **APPS** (*Applying Priniples Presented in Scripture*) make all the difference.

APPLICATION IS EVERYTHING.

Jesus and His brother James both taught that we can believe all we want, but until we **DO**, there will be no difference in our circumstance.

JAMES' VERSION OF JUST DO IT!

James 1:22-25 Don't just listen to God's Word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. ²³ For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. ²⁴ You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like.

Ancient mirrors were a polished metal. You could see your face in the reflection, but it was a little distorted.

Listening to the Word of God reveals (like a mirror) who we are and who we ought to be!

When our behaviour is exposed, we say, "Wow, I really ought to do something about that" and then do nothing.

We can see what needs fixing but, if we are only a hearer, we remain as we are, and all the hearing is good for...nothing.

Why? Application makes all the difference.

Unapplied truth is like unapplied paint - the value is in the application.

²⁵ But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

James says the law (Word of God) is perfect because...

- It is God's law, given and revealed by Him and God is perfect!
- Perfect GK: *teleios*, generally describes perfection towards some given end.

By obeying the law of God, we become perfect in the sense that, we will eventually become the person we ought to be and will make the contribution in the world we ought to make.

If we only obey our passions, emotions and desires, we will become a slave to them.

EG: How many people cannot afford the lifestyle they live? (debt)

When we accept the will of God for our lives, we are free to be what we ought to be. Serving Jesus and doing His will becomes our peace.

JESUS' VERSION OF JUST DO IT!

Matthew 7:24-25 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”

Only a house whose foundations are firm with secure footings can withstand the storms.

JESUS INSISTED ON TWO THINGS.

1. To **LISTEN**. “*Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine...*”

- We listen with the intent to learn.
- To *lean* in to hear clearly.

2. To **DO**. “*...puts them into practice...*”

- Knowledge only becomes relevant when it is translated into action.
- Theory must become practice and theology must become life.

- There is little point going to a doctor, unless we are prepared to do the things, he instructs us to do.
- There is little point going to an expert, unless we are prepared to act upon their advice.

If we are truly followers of Jesus, we must **HEAR** and **DO**.

Hearing and doing are summed up in one word – **OBEDIENCE!**

Obeying Jesus is the most important thing to do in a Christ followers' life.

Obeying Jesus' APPS (*Applying Principles Presented in Scripture*) **will set the strong foundation we need to weather the storms of life.**

In 2021 will we be **DOERS**, and not just **HEARERS?**

Remembering, **application makes all the difference** - so let us ... just do it!

Do what?

To obey Jesus' APPS (*Applying Principles Presented in Scripture*)