



LIFE APPS #1 :: Application is Everything {Andy Stanley}

INTRODUCTION

Your doctor can prescribe you the best medicine. But it does no help if you don't take it. You can own the sleekest pair of running shoes. But it does no help if you don't exercise. You can gather all the nutritional information regarding the foods you eat. But it does no help if you don't adjust your diet.

Application makes all the difference.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What resolutions have you recently made but failed to apply?
2. Is it reasonable to expect non-Christians to apply Christian standards?
3. Read James 1:22-25. How can merely "listening" result in "deceiving" yourself?
4. Read James 1:22-25. James uses an illustration about looking into a mirror to emphasize the importance of "doing." What Christian principles do you frequently hear about but fail to apply?
5. What are some examples of observing a rule or a law that actually led the way to freedom?
6. Read Matthew 7:24-25. What specific application can you "do" this week in order to become like the wise man Jesus describes in the Matthew passage?

MOVING FORWARD

"Unapplied truth is like unapplied paint. It doesn't do anybody any good. The value is in the application." Merely reading the Bible or coming to church and hearing a sermon is one thing. But real life-change happens in the "doing". Application makes all the difference.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Those who listen to the word but do not do what it says are like people who look at their faces in a mirror and, after looking at themselves, go away and immediately forget what they look like.

James 1:22-24