

Do What It Says

SCRIPTURE

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” James 1:22

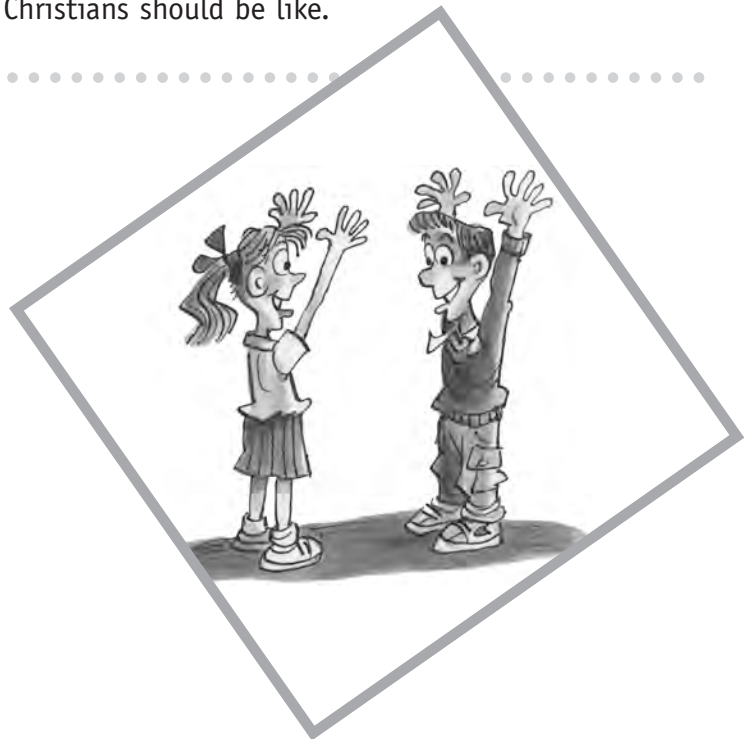
Focus

God’s Word shows us what Christians should be like.

Object Talk

Today we’re going to play a mirror game. I would like each of you to get a partner and stand facing your partner. Allow time for students to find partners. If needed, pair up with a student so that each child has a partner. **Now, choose one person to do an action such as wave hands, walk in place, make a face, or swing his or her arms. The other person tries to mirror or copy the action.** (Optional: Demonstrate activity with a partner.) Allow a few minutes for students to complete the activity, and then have partners switch roles.

Great job! You knew how to act by imitating your partner’s actions. In the same way, we learn how to act as Christians by imitating the actions we read about in God’s Word. James 1:22 says, “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” As Christians, we can mirror the instructions given to us in the Bible.



CONCLUSION

When we mirror our actions after what the Bible says, we don’t just listen and read about what God says in His Word—we begin to do what it says.

Close in prayer.

Going the Extra Mile

ACTIVITY

Today we'll play a game of charades. Charades is a game in which players act out something so that others can guess what they're acting out. Help students form groups of three to six. Give each group one or more Bibles. **I'm going to give each group a Bible verse that describes to us what Christians should be like. In your groups, you'll act out the Bible verse for another group to guess what command your Bible verse tells about. For example, if your group has a Bible verse about kindness, your group would act out a way someone might show kindness.** Assign one of the following Bible verses to each group. Allow time for students to find and read verses and decide how to act out a way someone might obey the verse.

"Worship the Lord . . . with joyful songs." Psalm 100:2

"A friend loves at all times." Proverbs 17:17

"Share with God's people who are in need." Romans 12:13

"Serve one another in love." Galatians 5:13

"Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13

"Pray continually." 1 Thessalonians 5:17

"Everyone should be . . . slow to become angry." James 1:19

BIBLE DISCUSSION

When He lived on Earth, Jesus told a story about the results of obeying God's commands. Have a student read Matthew 7:24-27 aloud.

- What did Jesus say the foolish man did? The wise man?
- What is someone like who does not obey God's Word?
- In your own words, what would you say is the main idea of these verses?

Paying attention to God's Word and putting His commands into practice will help us build lives that are strong. Even when things happen that make us worried or sad, we'll be able to depend on God.

LIFE CHALLENGE

God's Word tells us everything we should know about living as His followers. When we do what God's Word says, we show others what Christians are like and how God intended His followers to live. When others see our actions, they can be inspired to become God's followers too!

PRAYER

God, thank You for Your Word—the Bible. Help us to do what Your Word says we should do. In Jesus' name, amen.