

From Phoniness to Spiritual Authenticity **James 1:19-27**

Introduction: In the world of track and field the name, Bill Bowerman, is legendary. When he was the track coach of the University of Oregon in the 1960's, he built an unrivaled track and field program. He taught his athletes to look for the competitive edge everywhere - in their bodies, their gear and their passion.

Three keys that will move you from talking a good game (on the bench) to living an eternally successful life.

1. Approach God's Word humbly and with readiness to grow.
2. Make progress by obeying God's Word carefully.
3. Be bold in your obedience.

Approach God's Word humbly and with readiness to grow. Vs.19-21

Receive with meekness the implanted word

Come to the Bible with a desire to listen, not talk...

"Be quick to listen, slow to speak."

Approach God's Word with a willingness to put aside all barriers. Vs. 21a

Therefore, put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness.

Humbly allow the Word to be implanted. Vs. 21b

Receive with meekness the implanted word which is able to save your soul.

Make progress by obeying God's Word carefully. vs. 22-25

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Be bold in your obedience. Vs. 26-27

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. 27Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.