

Discussion Questions for *Worthwhile Religion*
August 2, 2020

1. How does the world define the phrase “a religious person”? How do those in the church define it? How does Scripture define it?
2. Why are we deceived if our tongue is not under control?
3. Talk about the phrase “this man’s religion is worthless.” What does this phrase mean? How does it relate to our words? Why is this important to think about?
4. Think about the words “visit” and “distress” in v. 27. What do each of these words mean? Can you think of present-day examples of followers of Jesus who “visit” those in “distress”?
5. Why do you think James specifically mentions “orphans” and “widows” in this verse? How can we faithfully “visit” orphans and widows? What does this look like for us? And who else, in addition to orphans and widows, do we see in distress?
6. What does it mean to be “unstained by the world”? What kinds of things leave the “stain of the world” on our lives?
7. How do you personally guard against the ways of the world overtaking you?
8. Think about the three questions asked during the sermon: Am I aware of how my words come across to others? Am I aware of those in genuine need? Am I pursuing holiness? Which of the three feels most personal to you? Why?