

# ELEMENTARY DISCUSSION GUIDE

# **CHARACTER TRAIT**:

# **CONSISTENCY**

# **DEFINITION:**

Constantly following God and His Word

## **MEMORY VERSE:**

"You have charged us to keep your commandments carefully. Oh, that my actions would consistently reflect your decrees! Then I will not be ashamed when I compare my life with your commands." **Psalm 119:4-6** 

# **FINISH LINE:**

God's unchanging Word guides our actions

## **READ**: JAMES 1:17-27

#### WHAT DOES IT SAY?

#### (OBSERVATION)

- 1. What does verse 17 remind us about God? (He never changes. He is consistent and does not shift like a shadow. All good gifts come from Him.)
- It is important to spend time reading and learning from God's Word, but what does verse 22 tell us? (Do not just listen to God's Word. Do what it says.)
- What did James compare God's Word to? (A mirror)
- 4. Look at verse 24. How does James describe someone who does not let God's Word guide their actions? (It is like they look in a mirror but forget what they look like right away.)

#### WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

#### (INTERPRETATION)

- What are some things that you know are consistently true about God? (He is always loving, good, all-knowing, all-powerful, etc.)
- 2. If we believe these things are true about God, what can we believe about His Word? (His Word is good and true, it does not change, He gave it to us because He loves us, it tells us the best way to live, etc.)
- Can we earn God's love or salvation by following the rules and doing enough good stuff?
   Why not? (No, salvation is a gift from God.)
- 4. Why do people who follow God WANT to let His Word guide their actions? (They know how much God loves them and wants what is best for them.

  Consistently obeying His Word is one way to show they love Him.)

#### WHY DOES IT MATTER?

#### (APPLICATION)

- Look at some examples that these verses give us about what God's Word says and how it can guide our actions. Read the following verses. Decide what actions they are talking about and think of one way you can let that verse from God's Word guide you at home, at school, or wherever you are.
  - Verse 19: Be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to get angry.
  - Verse 26: Be careful with what you say and how you use your words.
  - Verse 27: Serve and care for those in need like orphans and widows.