

**WELCOME TO  
W.O.W.!**

[www.bbtc.com.sg/wow](http://www.bbtc.com.sg/wow)  
To download soft copy of notes.  
PPT will be uploaded by tomorrow.

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**WHY W.O.W.?**

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**WHY W.O.W.?**

*Matthew 28:19-20*

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

**STUDYING THE WORD TOGETHER IS PART OF  
JESUS' GREAT COMMISSION FOR ALL DISCIPLES!**

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## WHY W.O.W.?

Acts 2:42

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”*

STUDYING THE WORD TOGETHER FOLLOWS  
THE EXAMPLE OF THE EARLY ACTS CHURCH!

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## WHY W.O.W.?

John 5:39-40

“You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”

BIBLE STUDY MUST BE MORE THAN AN INTELLECTUAL EXERCISE  
- IT SHOULD BE AN INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE ... OF GOD!

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## W.O.W. IS NOT...

JUST AN INTELLECTUAL EXERCISE

ALTERNATIVE TO YOUR QUIET TIME

ALTERNATIVE TO CHURCH SERVICE

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# WHY W.O.W.?

*Not to serve as your main source of Word intake,  
but to help you ...*




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# WHAT TO EXPECT

- HANDLES ON BIBLE STUDY\*\***
- PERSPECTIVES OF BBTC LEADERS**
- DISCUSSION WITH BBTCIANS**

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# BIBLE STUDY HANDLES

*ZOOM IN! Observation*

*ZOOM OUT! Application*

- 1. CONTEXT**
- 2. CIRCLE**
- 3. CROSS-REF**

- 1. CRUX**
- 2. COMMAND**
- 3. COMMIT**

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# JAMES 1:19-27

ZOOM IN! Observation

## 1. CONTEXT

## 2. CIRCLE

## 3. CROSS-REF

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## 1. CONTEXT

*Not essential, but good to know as you begin to read*

Some possible information sources to get a good starter overview:

- A good study Bible.  
*Eg LAB, Quest, Logos ...*
- A good online commentary. Choose one you're comfy with.  
*Eg <https://www.biblestudytools.com/james/>*
- Good ol' Google. Aggregate/triangulate the various results.
- Mentors, friends, churchmates. *Choose wisely!*

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## 1. CONTEXT

*Not essential, but good to know as you begin to read*

- **WHAT** happens just before this passage?
- **WHO** wrote it? Who was he? Who was the audience?
- **WHERE** does this take place? Why might it matter?
- **WHEN** does this take place chronologically in the Bible?
- **WHY** is this book/passage important? What's the big idea?

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**1. CONTEXT** *Not essential, but good to know as you begin to read*

**WHAT happens just before this passage?**  
 James 1:1-18 – How to face trials (Joy! Perseverance!)  
 Tune in to God – Turn to God’s Word – Trust His character

**WHO wrote it? Who was he? Who was the audience?**  
 James, Jesus’ brother. To the early church, esp the Jews

**WHERE does this take place? Why might it matter?**  
 Jerusalem. Centre of the early church.  
 Main authority – early Christians seeking guidance, SOPs

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**1. CONTEXT** *Not essential, but good to know as you begin to read*

• **WHEN** does this take place chronologically in the Bible?  
**JAMES: Estimated 45AD? EARLIEST EPISTLE!**

1000 7500 2000 1500 1000 600 BC AD 33 75

CREATION NOAH ABRAHAM MOSES DAVID JEWISH EXILE LIFE OF JESUS ACTS-EPISTLES REVELATIONS

OLD TESTAMENT NEW TESTAMENT

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**1. CONTEXT** *Not essential, but good to know as you begin to read*

**WHY is this book/passage important? What’s the big idea?**

- Probably the first epistle, barely 10-15 years after Jesus’ death.
- Early church finding its bearings. Likely pre-Jerusalem Council (Acts 15). They were figuring out what it meant to be part of this religion.
- A letter filled with direct commands – highly practical handles on faith.
- Emphasis is on our faith being evidenced by our works.
- **BOTTOM LINE:** A call to self-evaluation of our life as Christians.
- **AS YOU READ, ASK:** Is this what MY RELIGION looks like?

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**READ JAMES 1:19-27**

- James speaks very plainly – not much to explain (Unlike James 1:1-18 – trial = pure joy, God ≠ tempt)
- NOT a complex passage
- BUT not a comfortable passage
- So the difficulty is not in understanding it
- But the difficulty is in surrender and application

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**READ JAMES 1:19-27**

- 19** My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,
- 20** because human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.
- 21** Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.
- 22** Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. *Do what it says.*
- 23** Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror, and,
- 24** after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

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**READ JAMES 1:19-27**

- 25** But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what have heard, but doing it— they will be blessed in what they do.
- 26** Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.
- 27** Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

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HUMANS ARE SLOW TO LISTEN QUICK TO SPEAK/ANGRY E.G. MARRIAGE OUR DESIRES VS GOD'S ... E.G. PARENTING WHOSE JOB IS IT TO GET KID/ACCEPT? INTRN, KEVIN, APPN. DO DOCTRINE. AKA HYPOCRISY E.G. "SPIRIT OF INTELLECTUALISM"

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LOADED! AM I ... A) LOOKING AT THE LAW? B) INTENTLY? C) CONTINUOUSLY? D) DOING IT? E) KEEPING THE REWARD? WHY BRING UP TONGUES? OVERFLOW OF HEART E.G. COH K- PASTOR WHEN I SAY I AM RELIGIOUS, ARE THESE EVIDENT IN MY LIFE? E.G. JAPAN-PAKISTAN "YOU'RE THE ONE"

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**2. CIRCLE** "Dirty Bible, clean Christian." Clean Bible = ... ?

- **REPETITION** » Key words/phrases » Emphasis!
- **VERBS** » Action words » Wisdom!
- **CONJUNCTIONS** » Transition/linking words » Understanding!
- **LINKED PHRASES** » Follow the logic » Making sense!
- **WOW!** » Words or verses that sing to your Spirit! » Memorise!

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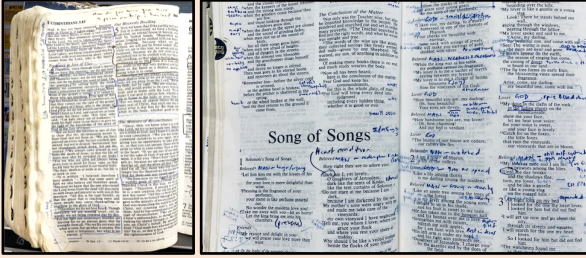
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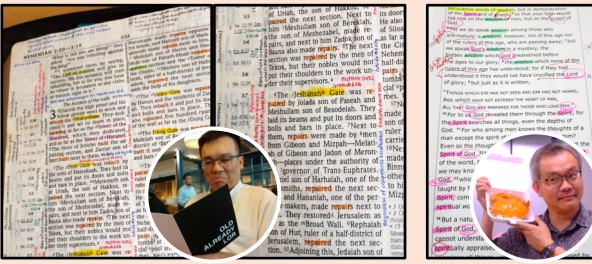
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2. CIRCLE "Dirty Bible, clean Christian." Clean Bible = ... ?



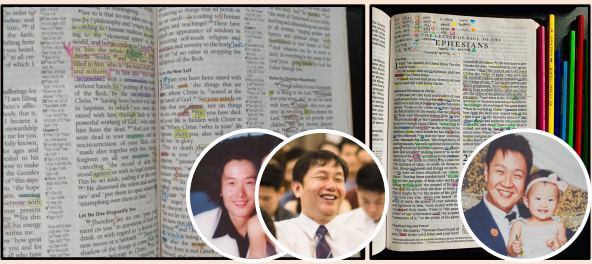
Horizontal lines for writing.

2. CIRCLE "Dirty Bible, clean Christian." Clean Bible = ... ?



Horizontal lines for writing.

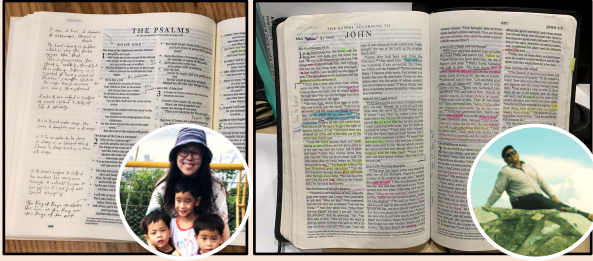
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Horizontal lines for writing.



**2. CIRCLE** "Dirty Bible, clean Christian." Clean Bible = ... ?



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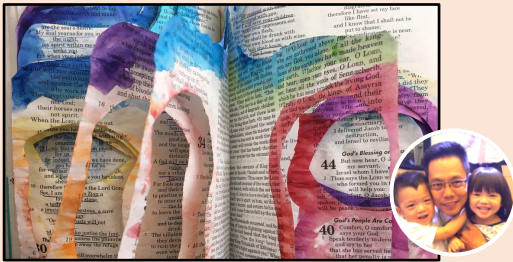
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**2. CIRCLE** "Dirty Bible, clean Christian." Clean Bible = ... ?



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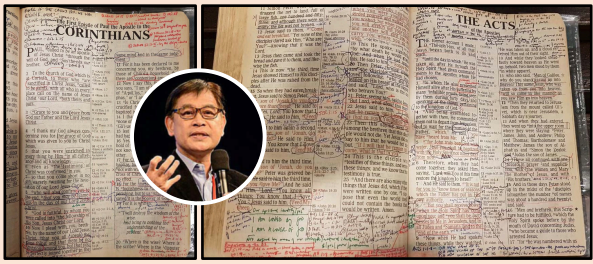
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 Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,

20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror, and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

24 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it— not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

26 Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

**REPETITION**  
**VERBS**  
**CONJUNCTIONS**  
**LINKED PHRASES**  
**WORD**

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HELPS YOU DISCERN ...

## REPETITION

**TOPIC** Religion x 3

**KEY** Word/Law x 4

**EXHORTATION** Listen/hear x 3      Look x 5

**WARNING!** Do not x 4      Deceive x 2

**BOTTOM LINE?** Do x 3

**REPETITION**  
**VERBS**  
**CONJUNCTIONS**  
**LINKED PHRASES**  
**WORD**

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## VERBS (ACTION WORDS)

WARNINGS (DO NOT!)	ENCOURAGEMENTS (DO!)
be slow to speak/anger	look into the law
keep a rein on tongue	accept/listen to the word, continue, not forgetting
get rid of filth/evil	be quick to listen
keep from being polluted	look after orphans/widows

» IS GOD TELLING ME SOMETHING?      » WHICH SHOULD I WORK ON?

**REPETITION**  
**VERBS**  
**CONJUNCTIONS**  
**LINKED PHRASES**  
**WORD**

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## CONJUNCTIONS & LINKED PHRASES

*Identify the contrasts, tensions, flow of logic ...*

<p><b>And</b> does not produce the righteousness God desires.</p>	<p><b>Therefore</b>, <u>get rid of all moral filth</u> and the evil that is so prevalent and <u>humbly accept</u> the word planted in you, which can save you.</p>
<p>Anyone who listens to the word but <u>does not do what it says</u> is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror, and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.</p>	<p><b>But</b> whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, <b>but</b> <u>doing it</u>—they will be blessed in what they do.</p>
<p>Those who consider themselves religious and yet <u>do not keep a tight rein on their passions</u> deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.</p>	<p>(By contrast) Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to <u>look after</u> orphans and widows in their distress and to <u>keep oneself from being polluted</u> by the world.</p>

**» SELF-EVALUATION: WHICH SIDE OF THIS TABLE DO I RESIDE IN?**

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## WOW! = SCRIPTURE MEMORY

*The key to Scripture memory: relevance & repetition!*

*James 1:22*

**Do not merely listen to the word,  
and so deceive yourselves.  
Do what it says.**

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## WOW! = SCRIPTURE MEMORY

*The key to Scripture memory: relevance & repetition!*

*James 1:22*

**Do not  
and so  
Do**

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**WOW! = SCRIPTURE MEMORY**

*The key to Scripture memory: relevance & repetition!*

*James 1:22*

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**3. CROSS-REFERENCE** *Where else do we see the same principle in Scripture?*

- Your Bible may contain cross-references or footnotes. Start there!
- Use the Internet! Try Googling: "Bible verse on \_\_\_\_\_" or "What does the Bible say about \_\_\_\_\_?"
- I usually end up at one of these sites, find what works for you: <https://www.openbible.info/topics/> or <https://www.biblegateway.com/topical/>
- Eventually, with sufficient Scripture familiarity, related passages or examples should spring to your mind. Let the Holy Spirit guide you!

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**3. CROSS-REFERENCE** *Where else do we see the same principle in Scripture?*

*1 John 3:16-18*  
 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.  
 If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?  
 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

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### 3. CROSS-REFERENCE *Where else do we see the same principle in Scripture?*

*John 13:17*

If you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

*John 14:15*

If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

*Philippians 4:9*

What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

*1 Peter 1:22*

You have made your souls pure by obeying the truth through the Holy Spirit.

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### 3. CROSS-REFERENCE *Where else do we see the same principle in Scripture?*

*2 Peter 1:3-11*

<sup>3</sup> His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. <sup>4</sup> Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

<sup>5</sup> ... Make every effort to add to your faith goodness (... and knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, mutual affection, love ... *words of action!*).<sup>8</sup> For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ...<sup>10</sup> For if you do these things, you will never stumble,<sup>11</sup> and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom.

**WORKS** - not a question of saved/unsaved but our response to salvation. Are we EFFECTIVE + PRODUCTIVE?

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## JAMES 1:19-27

*ZOOM OUT! Application*

**1. CRUX**

**YOUR TURN!**  
Personalise and internalise your takeaway from the passage!

**2. COMMAND**

**3. COMMIT**

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**1. CRUX** After reading this passage, summarise the key point

**CRUX** [ kruhks ] SHOW IPA

SYNONYMS | EXAMPLES | WORD ORIGIN  
SEE MORE SYNONYMS FOR CRUX ON THE SAURUS.COM

noun, plural crux-es, cru-ces «i» [kroo-seez]

- 1 a vital, basic, decisive, or pivotal point  
The crux of the trial was his whereabouts at the time of the murder.
- 2 a cross
- 3 something that torments by its puzzling nature; a perplexing difficulty. dictionary.com

**“VITAL POINT”**  
 A passage can have many points and sub-points. But on the whole, what would you say is the MAIN POINT?

**THE CROSS!**  
 All our works are meaningless if not for Jesus’ finished work in our life!

**“A PERPLEXING DIFFICULTY”**  
 God’s will for us may not be our preferred choice ... bridge the G.A.P.!

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**1. CRUX** After reading this passage, summarise the key point

**IN YOUR OWN WORDS, SUMMARISE THE CRUX OF THIS PASSAGE:**  
 << THE MAIN POINT / THE BIG IDEA / THE KEY ESSENCE >>

*Summarise - Personalise - Internalise (own) the truth!*

Am I listening AND doing what I read in the Bible?

Is my religion WORTHLESS? Or FAULTLESS?

What is true faith? What does religion done God’s way look like?

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**1. CRUX** After reading this passage, summarise the key point

**IN YOUR OWN WORDS, SUMMARISE THE CRUX OF THIS PASSAGE:**  
 << THE MAIN POINT / THE BIG IDEA / THE KEY ESSENCE >>

*Summarise - Personalise - Internalise (own) the truth!*

“Religion that God accepts as pure and faultless is ...”

True faith (religion) is evidenced by a life of actions which show

SELF-CONTROL | PASSION FOR GOD’S RIGHTEOUSNESS | COMPASSION

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## 2. COMMAND

*What does God want you to do?*

**EXODUS 24:3** Moses recounted to the people all the words of the LORD and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, **"All the words which the LORD has spoken we will do!"**

**HEBREWS 4:12** "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

**2 TIM 3:16-17** All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for **teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness**, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

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## 2. COMMAND

*What does God want you to do?*

**WHAT IS GOD TELLING YOU TO DO IN RESPONSE TO THE WORD?  
<< WHETHER IT INVOLVES HEART / SOUL / STRENGTH / MIND >>**

*Be ye not hearers of the word but doers also!*

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## 3. COMMIT

*Position for transformation*

### 1. PRAY

We can't change on our own strength. We need the help of the Holy Spirit.

### 2. PLAN/PREPARE

We are forgetful human beings. If we don't intentionally purpose to DO, we get stuck in inertia of our old ways. Force yourself into a position where you have to act on it. Schedule it, sign up for it, get someone to hold you accountable ...

### 3. PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

You have to start – and start soon!

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**3. COMMIT** *Position for transformation*

**TELL GOD ABOUT YOUR COMMITMENT TO RESPOND.  
WHAT ACTIONS CAN YOU TAKE TO ENSURE YOU'RE ON TRACK?**

*Eg staying accountable to someone, signing up for a course/ministry, scheduling time ...*

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**DISCUSSION TIME!**

*From James 1:19-27, in your small groups, share what God is saying to you:*

**1. CRUX**

**2. COMMAND**

**3. COMMIT**

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**WHY W.O.W.?**

*Not to serve as your main source of Word intake,  
but to help you ...*

**LEARN THE WORD** INFORMATION

**LOVE THE WORD** REVELATION

**LIVE THE WORD** APPLICATION

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