

James Series Going Deeper

5- Day Devotional

Week 8, Day 5: Faith That Moves

Verse of the Day

“For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.” — James 2:26

Primary Focus Statement

Real faith is alive, active, and transforming.

Devotional

James closes this section with a powerful image.

A body without breath is lifeless.

It may still have structure.

It may still appear complete externally.

But it has no life within it.

James says the same thing can happen spiritually.

A person can possess:

- **religious appearance,**
- **Christian language,**
- **outward activity,**
- **biblical knowledge...**

...and yet remain spiritually lifeless internally.

Why?

Because genuine faith is alive.

And living faith always produces movement.

Not flawless behavior.

Not perfection overnight.

But movement toward:

- **Christ,**
- **repentance,**
- **holiness,**
- **surrender,**
- **mercy,**
- **obedience,**
- **transformation.**

This is the beauty of the gospel.

Jesus did not come merely to improve behavior externally.

He came to raise spiritually dead people to life.

And when Jesus truly saves someone, He begins transforming them from the inside out.

The desires change.

The priorities change.

The heart changes.

The direction changes.

Again — not instantly.

But genuinely.

James wants us to understand this deeply:

The evidence of salvation is not perfection.

The evidence of salvation is a growing surrender to Jesus Christ.

Real faith moves.

It moves the heart toward God.

It moves the life toward obedience.

It moves the soul toward holiness.

It moves the hands toward mercy.

It moves the entire person toward becoming more like Jesus.

And this is James' final warning and invitation:

Do not settle for a Christianity that exists only in words.

Pursue the kind of faith that truly knows Jesus...

loves Jesus...

trusts Jesus...

follows Jesus...

and is being transformed by Jesus day by day.

Reflection

1. In what ways is Jesus actively transforming my life right now?
2. Where have I seen spiritual growth and movement toward Christ?
3. What does it look like for me to continue surrendering daily to Jesus?

1 Action Step

Spend intentional time thanking Jesus today not only for saving you, but for continuing to transform you into His likeness.