

CCEM – SPRING WOMEN’S STUDY

“FAITH IN ACTION” - BOOK OF JAMES

JAMES CHAPTER 2 – STUDY QUESTIONS

(Questions from “Joyful Life” – C.C. Costa Mesa, Kay Smith)

READ - James Chapter 2

1. Why is application of God’s Word to our life (being doers of the Word) so essential?

2. What do you do when you find yourself resistant or reluctant in doing what the Word of God instructs you to do?

3. Briefly state the key point of each of these verses:

a. James 2:1-4 _____

b. James 2:5-7 _____

c. James 2:8-13 _____

4. How does the Word of God evaluate the behavior of the believers towards the rich man and the poor man? James 2:4

5. In what way are the “poor” of James 2:5 wealthy?

6. James is discussing two types of faith in verses 14-20: professing faith and genuine faith. What does the man of verse 14 say he has?

a. This man professes (declares) to have faith. State what he does not have.

(1.) Works in the Biblical context is defined as acts or deeds. List some synonyms for works.

b. James 2:14 asks the question: What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith, but does not have works? Can faith save him? How would you answer this question?

(1.) Just professing to be a Christian isn't enough to produce salvation. What did James say must accompany our profession of faith to prove we have faith that saves? Matthew 7:21

7. Paul in Ephesians 2:8-9 clearly states that salvation is not obtained through works. James clearly states that works will accompany salvation. These 2 writers do not contradict one another but their writings complement each other. Paul identified the **root** of genuine faith – belief in Jesus Christ; James identified the **fruit** of genuine faith – love and works. What did Paul say in Ephesians 2:8-10 about works and the believer?

8. How does 1 John 3:16-18 amplify the teaching of James 2:15-16?

9. Record the instructions we are given concerning works in the following scriptures:

a. Matthew 5:16

Who will be glorified by our good works? _____

b. Colossians 1:10 _____

c. Titus 2:7 _____

d. Titus 2:14 _____

e. Titus 3:8 _____

f. Hebrews 10:24 _____

10. Throughout the letter of James, hypocrisy in the lives of its readers (hearers) is exposed. How does the lack of good works in one professing faith reveal hypocrisy?

11. Abraham and Rahab are used in James 2:21-26 to illustrate the principle of James 2:14-20. These two examples of genuine faith evidenced by works present a striking contrast of character, culture, and class. Observe this by writing the two-word description following their names in these verses.

a. Abraham _____

b. Rahab _____

12. Why do you think James is insisting that believers understand clearly the relationship between faith and works?

a. What does 2 Corinthians 13:5 tell us to do?

b. Some genuine believers might tell you that they were beginning to doubt their salvation because they were weak in works. How would you encourage them? See 1 John 3:19-24.

13. What does James 2:23c say Abraham was called?

14. List the good works recorded in:

1. 1 Timothy 5:10

2. Acts 9:36, 39b

15. Read 1 Corinthians 3:12-15. How do these verses speak to you. How do you want James 2:21-26 to affect your life?
