



FAITH THAT WORKS

WEEK 4 / JAMES 2:14-26 / SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

BIG IDEA

Real faith is not proven by what we claim. It becomes visible in the way we live. Works do not create saving faith; they reveal that faith is alive.

READ TOGETHER

James 2:14-26 | Notice what James says about claims, compassion, belief, obedience, and living faith.

INTO THE SERMON

LOOK BACK AT SUNDAY

- 1 What idea, phrase, or illustration from Sunday's sermon stayed with you most? What made it memorable?
- 2 Pastor Sam asked, 'If someone followed me around, would they meet Jesus?' What does that question expose about the gap between what we say we believe and how we actually live?

INTO THE TEXT

OPEN JAMES 2

- 1 Read James 2:14-17. Why does James question a faith that speaks spiritual words but does not meet a tangible need? Where can 'I'll pray for you' become a substitute for action?
- 2 Read James 2:18-20. What does 'even the demons believe — and shudder' teach us about the difference between correct belief and saving faith? What do trust and allegiance add?



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INTO THE TEXT

FOLLOW THE ARGUMENT

- 3 Read James 2:21-24. How does Abraham show that faith and works are active together? Why is 'not by faith alone' not a contradiction of Paul but a clarification of living faith?
- 4 Read James 2:25-26. Why does James use Rahab and then the image of a body without breath? What does that picture teach us about works as evidence of life?

APPLICATION

PUT FAITH TO WORK

- 1 The sermon warned that good intentions are not the same thing as obedience. Where are you most tempted to offer words, sympathy, or spiritual language without concrete action?
- 2 Coastlands was challenged not to wait for 'someone' or 'the church' to help. What need around you right now may actually be an invitation for you to become part of the answer?

THIS WEEK

CHOOSE ONE

- Read James 2:14-26 and ask God to expose one place where your faith has remained in words more than action.
- Choose one concrete act of obedience this week: show up, bring a meal, make the call, open your wallet, forgive, serve, or help someone in need.
- Replace one 'I'll pray for you' moment with both prayer and action.
- Ask: if someone only watched my life this week, what would they conclude that I believe about Jesus?

MEMORY VERSE / JAMES 2:17

"So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."