

Message Notes | The & Series

Part 1: Faith & Works

James 2:14-18

→ parenting children

#1 Life is often lived in the _____ between _____ things.

→ our natural belief about good things

→ Martin Luther's journey - **Romans 1:17**

#2 Faith in _____ provides a _____ that your _____ never could.

→ James addresses Antinomianism - **vs. 14-17**

#3 You are saved by _____, but saving _____ is never _____.

→ works make faith visible - **vs. 18**

#4 God is calling us to _____ and _____.

Group Questions | The & Series

Part 1: Faith & Works

James 2:14-18

1. Life is often lived in the tension between two things. In what way do you feel that tension in your life right now?

How have you navigated that tension?

2. When not balanced, what side of the faith & works tension do you most often drift towards? (worry over sin or apathy towards Godly living?)

Why can it be easy to drift rather than holding both sides of this tension?

3. **Read Romans 1:16-17 and Ephesians 2:8-9.** In what ways is a person's life changed when they believe that their standing with God is completely secure?

4. **Read James 2:14-16.** James describes a faith that says the right things, but does nothing. What are some modern examples of that kind of faith?

5. **Read James 2:17.** We all struggle with sin and not always bearing fruit. How can "struggling" actually be a sign of faith?

What would actions or attitude would be found in a dead faith?

6. "You are saved by faith alone, but saving faith is never alone." Where in your life might God be calling you to respond more intentionally?

7. What does it look like for you to truly rest in God's free gift of grace and forgiveness?

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#1 Life is often lived in the tension between two things.

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#2 Faith in Jesus provides a peace that your effort never could.

→ James addresses Antinomianism - **vs. 14-17**

#3 You are saved by faith alone, but saving faith is never alone.

→ works make faith visible - **vs. 18**

#4 God is calling us to respond and rest.

Bible Reading for Today

James 2:14-24

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

²⁰ You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? ²¹ Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. ²³ And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. ²⁴ You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.