

Faith Works > James 2:14-26

2:14-17 *Dead faith.* The danger James wants us to beware of is a kind of “faith” that doesn’t transform. The sort of “faith” that exists only in our minds and doesn’t actually transform how we live and act. That kind of faith is dead in the truest sense – it produces no life!

2:18-19 *Empty faith.* Another example of this kind of empty faith can be seen from the spiritual realm: knowledge itself isn’t the same as faith – after all, the demons know the reality of our one true God, they even respond in a sense, but nobody would argue that they are saved! We dare not think that a faith without transformation is somehow genuine.

2:20-26 *Real faith.* By contrast, the examples of Abraham and of Rahab reveal what true faith looks like: it’s belief that so transforms us that we are changed in how we act. Our actions don’t earn salvation for us; instead, they reveal what we really believe about the salvation that Jesus offers.

The Point: A faith that doesn’t transform you in heart, soul, mind, and strength (your actions!) isn’t genuine faith.

Prayer: Lord, make us into the kind of people who don’t merely say or think the right things. We want more! Transform us inside and out, our thoughts and our actions!

Application: What are your actions revealing about what you truly believe? James’s point isn’t that our actions will be perfect. Instead, it’s that our actions show us something about our walking by faith and trusting our Savior.

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____
