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# ***JAMES – Practical Christianity***

## ***Real Faith Real Change***

*Part 6*

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*New Hope Community Church  
Dr. Jack Bracy, October 11, 2015*

### ***James 2:14-26***

“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”  
***Acts 16:30–31, ESV***

“What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?” ***James 2:14, ESV***

“Not everyone who calls me ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only those who do what my Father in heaven wants them to do.”  
***Matthew 7:21–23, GNB***

Paul Is Talking the Process of Salvation

James Is Talking About the Evidence of Salvation

“But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” **Show me** your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.” ***James 2:18, ESV***

The Evidence That I Have a “Saving” Faith Is That I Am  
In The Process of Transformation

### **Definitions:**

Faith: a Lifestyle Trusting God and Obeying Him

Works: a Lifestyle of Giving Myself

Away to God and Others

“Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

***Matthew 22:37–40, NLT***

## **4 Illustrations of the Evidence of Real Faith**

## The Needy

“If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?” *James 2:15–16, ESV*

Anyone Can Be Moved To Tears, But Those Who Those Who Live By Faith  
Will Do Something about It

Those Who Live by Faith Will Grieve Over Their Sin

## Demons

“You believe that God is one; you do well.  
Even the demons believe—and shudder!” *James 2:19, ESV*

Those Who Live by Faith Apply the Word  
of God to Real Life Situations

## Abraham and Isaac

“Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.” *James 2:21–24, ESV*

When Those Who Live by Faith Reach a Dead End  
They Know God Will Provide

## Rahab the Prostitute

“And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?” *James 2:25, ESV*

When God Leads Me to a Crisis of Faith  
It's Because He Loves Me

## 2 Principles

1. Faith Without Works Is Dead vs 17, 26

Real Faith Creates Real Change in My Life

2. Faith Without Works Is Useless vs 20

Because of Grace, I Can Choose  
to Trust Him Today