

LifeGroup Questions
Based on: James 2:14-26
October 6, 2019

Overview

It is easy to have 20/20 faith when you are looking back on your life and know how everything works out. I guess the question would be, "Is it really faith if you know the outcome?" Stepping into the unknown requires faith. Sometimes we find ourselves at a crossroads trying to decide to stick with the path we know or step out onto a path we do not.

In this passage James calls faith without action dead and worthless. He calls it dead twice and worthless once. These are really harsh words used to describe faith with no action. Believers are not justified by their actions, but their actions validate their faith. These statements by James in no way contradicts the Gospels. Jesus said you would know a tree by its fruit. This is same for believers. We are known by our fruit.

It is easy to slide into a non-active faith. One that is just based on intellectual knowledge, but requires no action. This is not where we want to be as a church. We want a living active faith and to be known in the community by our fruits.

Unfortunately today, many believers seem to have been inoculated with a dead faith. Inoculation is when you get a dead version of a virus so you are immune to the real thing. Many of us this fall will get our flu shots so we don't actually experience the real flu. Faith inoculation is nothing more than easy believism. We believe and know a lot of things about God but none of our actions reflect our beliefs. We have just enough belief to feel good but not enough to change our lives.

There are many things wrong with being inoculated with a dead faith. One of the main problems is you become immune to a living active faith. You become content with an easy going, consumerism, Sunday attending faith that requires no action.

At First MB we are looking toward the future. We are focused on a New Day filled with a living active faith. This faith will stretch and grow each and every one of us. Get prepared for an action packed, faith filled journey as we embark on a New Day.

Bible Study: James 2:14-26

1. What is the difference between belief and faith?

2. Why does James use words like dead and worthless to describe faith without actions?
3. Faith and deeds are intertwined. Deeds are the overflow of your faith. How are your deeds reflecting your faith?
4. How can or is First MB known as a faith filled church?
5. In what ways can stepping out into the unknown help strengthen your faith?