

DEAD OR ALIVE: JAMES 2:14-26

Intro. Reader Kenley Patrick. Thank you for everything you are doing to help others during this ice storm. We need your hands, prayers, and money to meet the needs of our church and community. Go to onekingdom.org and make a donation to help. I came into this church to the sound of pouring water. The tiles were down and water was running down the middle aisle clear to the stage. The Dobbs and others came to the rescue. This was just the beginning of a challenging week.

I. Dead or Alive Faith Defined – 2:14-19

- a. Profession without practice equals dead.
- b. Declaration without transformation equals dead
- c. Grace eliminates earning but not effort
- d. Works are a demonstration of faith. They don't make you right but display your faith in action.
- e. James says Faith without works is dead and Jesus says works without faith is dead. Matt. 7:21-26. Paul says "The only thing that counts is faith working through love." Gal.5:6

II. Dead or Alive Faith Described – 2:20-26

- a. Abraham – Gen. 15:6, 22 His righteousness was declared by God and demonstrated by works.
- b. Rahab – there couldn't be two people more different. Abraham, a jew of great respect and Rahab a woman of disrespect . Joshua 2 and 6. She took action at the risk of her own life to help God's people. We find her again in Heb.11:31 in the hall of faith as well as Matt. 1:5 in the ancestry of Jesus.

Conclusion: Dead or Alive. Our community is watching especially during difficult times to see if we are dead or alive. Keep warm and well fed are words that must be backed by action if we are to claim a living faith. I have seen this demonstrated during this storm and I am proud of our forever family.