

I. Review of Session One

Expressions of faith explained.

A. Expressions Defined

- a. The process of making known one's thoughts or feelings.
- b. Express – to reveal in words, gestures, and actions.
- c. **To express is to declare, proclaim, publish, or communicate.**

B. Faith begins in the heart but must take on expression.

- a. Faith must be expressed, made known and communicated.
- b. Faith takes on gestures, actions, and words.
- c. Faith without expression is faith without **works**.

C. How Faith is expressed

Part 1 Recap: Faith is expressed through words.

a. Declarations of faith

- **Declare** = to say – pronounce or announce something.
- To make formally known – To state emphatically.
- To announce one's decision, support, or intention.

NOTE: Declarations of faith occur when we use our words to affirm our belief in God, His Word, and His promises to us. We make declarations of faith based upon what we believe, anticipate, and expect from Him. **Faith isn't active until it is released in a declaration!**

b. Words of Praise

- *Words of praise glorify God for what He has done!*
- *Faith is expressed by words of praise for what God will do, is doing and is going to do.*

c. Words of Worship

- *Praise honors God for what He has done and will do.*
- *Worship honors God for who He is.*

d. Dominion Words

- *Faith must be expressed through words of dominion over our circumstances.*

II. Expressing our faith through actions

A. James 2:14-26 NKJV

“What *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of

daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,’ but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what *does it profit?* **Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.** But someone will say, ‘You have faith, and I have works.’ Show me your faith without your works, **and I will show you my faith by my works...**”

(NOTICE – FAITH MAY BE SEEN BY OUR WORKS/ACTIONS)

“...You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?...”

(Our faith isn’t complete until it is expressed through works – corresponding action.)

“...And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, ‘Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’ And he was called the friend of God. You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only...”

(Abraham expressed his faith by obedient actions)

“...Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way?...”

(Rahab expressed her faith through acting to save the spies)

“...For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”

(Faith that is not expressed through action is as lifeless as a body without the Spirit. A body without the spirit can accomplish nothing. It is non-productive.)

B. Examples of faith and action in the Bible.

a. The woman who put Elijah’s request above her own need. Elijah and the widow.

1 Kings 17:8-16 NKJV “Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, ‘Arise, go to Zarephath, which *belongs* to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.’ So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow *was* there gathering sticks. **And he called to her and said, ‘Please bring me a**

little water in a cup, that I may drink.’ And as she was going to get *it*, he called to her and said, **‘Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.’** So she said, ‘As the LORD your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I *am* gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.’ **And Elijah said to her, ‘Do not fear; go *and* do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring *it* to me; and afterward make *some* for yourself and your son.** For thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the LORD sends rain on the earth.’ **So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah;** and she and he and her household ate for *many* days. The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the LORD which He spoke by Elijah”

(Notice – she acted in faith regarding the word she received. She is giving expression to her faith through her actions.)

b. The Woman with the issue of blood

She expressed her faith by acting on what she believed.

c. The ten lepers were healed as they expressed their faith in obedience to Jesus’ words.

Luke 17:14 NKJV “So when He saw them, He said to them, ‘Go, show yourselves to the priests.’ And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed.”

C. How do we express our faith through action?

Consider a time in your life when your actions were an expression of faith. Have you ever expressed your faith through action?

a. Obedience

- **The first step forward in expressing our faith is to always obey God’s instructions.**
- *Jesus gave various instructions prior to many of His miracles:*
 - *Fill the water pots with water.*
 - *Stretch forth thy hand.*
 - *Go wash in the pool of Siloam.*
- **Whenever you are using your faith to receive, pay close attention to His commands regardless of how great or small they may seem.**
 - ***Personal*** – *Go pray for someone - Be in a meeting – Study a particular subject – Ask someone specific to pray for you.*

b. Giving

- **Our offerings are expressions of faith.**
 - *I am to tithe not only from obedience but as an expression of faith.*
 - *When I give, I am expressing faith in God as my source.*
 - *I am making a statement, that I believe He will not only supply my every need, but I believe He will open the windows of heaven and open unto me blessings that there is not room enough to receive and the devourer will be rebuked on my behalf.*
- **Seed Faith Giving**
 - **Pastor's Note:** *There have been times when I was using my faith to receive from the Lord that I have intentionally sowed a financial seed as an expression of faith. I use this method especially when using my faith for finances.*
 - *I also revert to this method of expressing my faith when I don't have any specific direction of acting on my faith in a particular situation. Faith needs action/expression – so I give it expression through giving.*

c. Expressing Faith by doing what seems impossible to do.

- *When you are believing for healing – act on your faith through using your body in a way that you have been unable to do.*
- *This is not TESTING TO SEE if you are healed. This is ACTING in faith because you believe you are healed.*
- *Regardless of how things appear when acting on faith, faith is still the same because it is based upon the Word of God, **not on the manifestation.** Example, my first attempt back to church after Leukemia failed.*
- *Celebrate the smallest victories.*