



Closing the Gap Between Belief and Behavior!

August 10, 2025 – The Book of James

Closing the Gap between your Faith and your Works!

James 2:14-26 (ESV)

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and 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?

¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸But 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.

¹⁹You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! ²⁰Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

²¹Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar?

²²You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; ²³and 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.

²⁴You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. ²⁵And 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?

²⁶For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Titus 2:14

who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Hebrews 10:24

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works

True faith always produces works!

Five facts about your faith (if it is true faith):

1. If your faith is true, it should produce “good works”!

James 2:14-17

2. Your good works display (and prove) your true faith!

James 2:18b

3. If your faith is without works is useless (and dead)!

James 2:19-20

4. Your true faith is “active” to produce works, which “completes” your faith cycle!

James 2:21-25

5. Your faith without works is dead!

James 2:26

> Your faith is without life, lifeless - without works

--- Close the Gap! ---

True faith always produces work!

1. Your faith must be “activated” for faith-led works!

2. Your faith-works, display living-faith to others!

Application questions on the back →

--- Close the Gap between your faith and your works! ---

August 10, 2025

SUNDAY after church...

Think through your morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give! 2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received! 3) List songs or lyrics that touched your heart.

MONDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTED** Do you ever question your faith? Most of us do from time to time. Begin to seek to walk by faith and notice how the Lord uses your faith to bring about good works.

Write these out and take note: these affirm your faith and build assurance!

PRAY: Pray over your observations and applications.

TUESDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** If you don't "walk by faith", you won't see or experience faith-based good works. As James asks in 2:14a and 16b, "what good is that"? Write out how you view your faith. Is it "good" for your life and for others? Write out how faith-led good works are "good" for us and those around us. **Pray:** Pray over your applications.

WEDNESDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** From James 2:22, write out what it means to "activate" your faith (Abraham's faith was active). How can you do this daily? **Pray:** Pray over your applications.

THURSDAY and FRIDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** James tells us (also read Philippians 4:9) that good works display our faith. If faith is what our world, spouse, kids, fellow church friends, neighbors, and co-workers need to see, write out how this works with the people in your life. What are you passing on? If you don't activate your faith to good works, what are you passing on? **PRAY:** Pray over your observations and applications.

SATURDAY

Prepare your heart for Sunday's gathering by being ready to fully engage in the worship.