

MESSAGE NOTES



Series: James

Message: Faith for the Real World

Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: February 1/2, 2020

Reasons James is influential:

- Jesus' <u>brother</u> (Matthew 13:55)
- Originally a skeptic (Mark 3:21)
- Became a believer (1Corinthians 15:7; Acts 1:14)
- <u>Paid a high price</u> to follow (Historical accounts: Josephus and Eusebius)

In this letter, we will learn how to build a <u>faith</u> that works in the world we live in.

¹⁴ "What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? 15 Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, ¹⁶ and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? 17 So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. ¹⁸ Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds." 19 You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. ²⁰ How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?"

James 2:14-20 (NLT)

James addresses 4 different kinds of faith:

1. <u>Fake</u> He shows how to make it real.

2. <u>Fruitless</u> He shows how to get results.

3. <u>Fragile</u> He shows how to make it resilient.

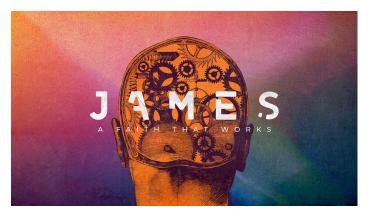
4. <u>Flourishing</u> He shows how this is possible for anyone.

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NLT – New Living Translation



TAKE HOME SHEET



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Look over the four general kinds of faith we discussed in the message. Remember that these aren't hard and fast categories. We can find ourselves in anyone of them depending on what we are currently facing in our life. Faith is not "set it and forget it". It is built on trusting and following God right now, where we are. Like any healthy relationship, it needs to be current, strong and healthy.

Think about which one the four kinds of faith best describes where your faith is right now. (Don't leave out #4 if it is what you think!)

Why did you pick this one?

What has contributed to your faith being this way?

What would you like to see God do to help you with going forward?

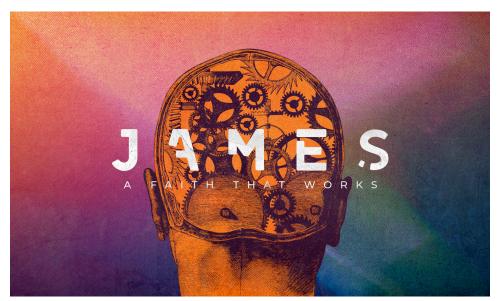
Take a moment and ask God to help you grow in your faith as we go through this message series together.

⁵ "Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶ Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. ⁷ Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the LORD and turn away from evil. ⁸ Then you will have healing for your body and strength for your bones."

Proverbs 3:5-8 (NLT)

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The Book of James is a powerful and intensely practical how-to manual for the Christian life. In this short letter, we learn how God has equipped us to face anything that comes our way with purpose, confidence, courage and hope. **This week: Faith for the Real World.** The early followers of Jesus faced trouble, persecution and suffering. This letter contains truths that strengthened and sustained them. While times are very different, these very same truths can speak to us today!

FIRST TIME GUESTS

We promise we're not going to make you stand up in front of everyone or track you down, but we'd love to know you were here today! Simply fill out your communication card in the seat back in front of you and check the "First Time Guest" box. On your way out, stop by Guest Services at the front doors and get your FREE welcome gift. We're glad you are here!



We're honored when people choose to do church with us. New Hope is for anyone who wants to seek God - from those exploring if He even exists, to devoted Christ-followers. Wherever you are, you'll find we are committed to showing the love of Jesus and helping people establish a relationship with Him. We are casual, laid-back and far from perfect. **ALL are welcome!**



Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

Calling all men of New Hope - we're having a one-day retreat.

Throughout the day, we'll hear from a variety of speakers about how to take charge in our work, personal, and spiritual lives as men of God. Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 22nd from 7:30 am - 3:30 pm. We will meet in the New Hope Atrium and the cost is \$20. Lunch is included. Questions? Email mensministry@newhope.org.

Sign up now at bit.ly/menfeb2020. And don't forget to invite a friend!



We're excited to offer training to teach ESL classes at New Hope! We are dedicated to this ministry because it not only helps people who live in our community, but also provides a way to share the good news of Jesus with the international community. The training is two full days: Thursday, and Friday, February 27th and 28th, from 9 am to 3 pm each day. New Hope will provide lunch and snacks. Sign up before February 24th at bit.ly/eslnewhope.





Our next Parent/Child Dedication is on Saturday, March 21st at 10:00 am. We will have parent information meetings after all services the weekend of February 29th/March 1st. Questions? Please email pcd@newhope.org.

Hey Parents - Do you know there are online resources available to help you connect with us, so we can share insights, ideas, support and announcements that are relevant to raising children in our community? Join the Parents of New Hope Group on Facebook or find us on Twitter by searching @nhcparents1.



NO TAKEOVER!

We're not meeting this Sunday. Enjoy the Super Bowl and we'll see you next week!



This year's Bible Reading Plan (BRP) will encourage you to explore and develop disciplines in your life to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus. Think of a discipline as a habit that deeply influences your life. Each month is devoted to a different spiritual discipline or habit. Richard J. Foster, author of Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth defines spiritual disciplines as "...the means of God's grace for bringing about genuine

personality formation characterized through and through by love and joy and peace and patience and kindness and goodness and faithfulness and gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23)." Spiritual disciplines are practices we do or habits we develop with the end result of being more like Jesus. We would like to encourage you to read *Celebration of Discipline* along with the BRP. You can purchase it on Amazon.com. The BRP can be found at newhope.org or hard copies are available at Guest Services.



Ever wonder how the building is used during the week? It's filled with bright-eyed preschoolers and a loving staff of experienced teachers! We offer three, four, and five day classes for children ages 2.5 to 5 years. Interested families are invited to schedule a tour to learn more about our play-based curriculum and experience first-hand what sets Silo Center Preschool apart. Find us at www.silocenterpreschool.com to learn more.

mark your calendar

Feb

2.15Z Farms
Valentine Party

2.22 Men's Retreat

2.23 Mission Muffins

2.27-28 ESL Training mar

3.7 Blood Drive

3.14 Northstar Womens Conference

3.21 Parent/Child Dedication

3.22 Mission Muffins apr

4.4Baptism Info Meetings

4.11 Good Friday

4.12-13 Easter Services

4.18Baptism
Celebration

4.26Mission Muffins

may

5.24 Mission Muffins

THE LANDING.

- TRINGSC PASSUEX

The Landing is for students in 6th-12th grade who want help dealing with difficult life issues. It's a safe place to talk openly about real life, learn new ways of coping, and have a little fun. The Landing meets on Tuesdays from 7-8:30 pm. Learn more at www.thingscansuck.com. You can also email info@thingscansuck.com

or call 703.971.4673 ext 120. **This month we're talking about self-harm.** Join us to learn what God has to say about it.



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