



COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of 9/1/24

Opener (10 minutes or less)

What's the weirdest thing you've seen?

DISCUSSION (50 minutes or less)

Begin your discussion time in prayer.

Scripture Reading: James 2:14-26

Questions:

1. What stands out to you from this passage and/or Sunday's teaching? What was new, challenging, or encouraging?
 2. How does James define true faith? What role do works play in demonstrating genuine faith?
 3. Some think that James seems to contradict the idea of justification by faith alone. How can we reconcile these two perspectives?
 4. How does Abraham's example of faith and works support what James is saying? How does his story further our understanding of faith?
 5. Why does James include the story of Rahab? What's significant about her specifically? How does this further his argument about faith and works?
 6. How does James' analogy of the body and the spirit help us understand the relationship between faith and works?
 7. How can we apply the principles of James 2:14-26 to bring about personal transformation? What specific steps can we take to live out this passage more fully?
-

PERSONAL (30 minutes or less)

1. Oikos - the 8 to 15 people God supernaturally and strategically places in your life. Any oikos moments you would like to share..
2. What is going on in your life (note prayer requests and praise reports)
3. Pray

James 2:14-26

14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and 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? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

18 But 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. 19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! 20 Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; 23 and 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. 24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. 25 And 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? 26 For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.