



Life Group Questions
Faith Proves Itself by Works

James 2:14-26
February 5, 2017

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- Have you ever had a superstitious belief? What was it and how did it affect your actions?
- What are some everyday ways that we demonstrate faith in things? (example: sitting in a chair)
- Discuss your church backgrounds. What were they and how have they affected your faith walk today? The Protestant church has its own form of works-based righteousness—legalism. Discuss your experience with legalistic churches and/or self-imposed legalism.

INTO THE BIBLE

- Give a modern example of the situation described in James 2:15-16.
- How do you explain the apparent contradiction between what Paul says in Romans 3:28 and what James says in v.2? What did Pastor Chuck say about this issue?
- What does Jesus say about faith and works? Matthew 7:26,27; John 14:15; John 15:8
- Ephesians 2:8-9 says, *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”* Some people argue that if works play a part in salvation that it takes away from the significance of Christ’s death on the cross. What do you think?
- Both Abraham (Hebrews 11:8-19), and Rahab (Hebrews 11:31), are mentioned in the “Hall of Faith” chapter (Hebrews 11). How is faith defined in Hebrews 11:1? What evidence did they give of their faith?
- Read 1 Corinthians 5:9-13 and John 7:24. To what extent are we able to be “fruit inspectors” of others to determine whether or not they have genuine faith? Is it wrong for us to judge other Christians by their deeds?

APPLICATION

- What are some ways that you try to earn approval from God?
- John Stott has said, we should “show” when tempted to “hide” our religion/faith, and “hide” when tempted to “show” our religion/faith. Is there an area where you need to trust and obey Christ and “show” off your faith? What is one way you can put your faith into action this week?

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