

▼ **Faith Is Dead Without Action**

Rocklyn Clarke Sr. - Sunday December 14, 2014

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• **Read the Passage: James 2:14-26**

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that — and shudder.

You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone.

In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

▼ **Purpose of the Sermon (what listeners should do)**

- Make it clear that biblical faith must be accompanied by action.
- Evaluate whether faith is accompanied by action in their own lives.
- Learn to back up their faith with action.

▼ **Make it clear that biblical faith must be accompanied by action.**

- What you believe is demonstrated by what you actually do.
- Abraham's faith was made complete by what he did. - **Genesis 15, 22:1-19**
- Rahab's faith was made complete by what she did hiding the spies. - **Joshua 2, 6:20-25**
- Any so-called "faith" that doesn't act is not biblical faith and is useless for God's purposes.
- There's no point just "talking the talk" - you have to "walk the walk".

▼ **Evaluate whether faith is accompanied by action in your own life.**

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▼ **Learn to back up your faith with action.**

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▼ **Discussion Questions & Topics**

- Share one or two things that you believe about God and his will for your life. Which Bible passages support what you believe? How does Jesus fit in?
- What actions in your own life provide evidence either for or against what you say you believe?
- What is the Holy Spirit leading you to do in light of this sermon?