



August 28, 2022
Worship Service
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WeAreLifeBridge.com

JAMES: Real Faith, Real Life

Lesson Thirteen • James 2:20-26

Real Faith Works

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Real faith works and those WORKS demonstrate and prove real faith.

Real faith is proven by our works and is based on
God's saving work in Jesus Christ.

Is There a Contradiction Between James and Paul?

On the surface it appears so, but in reality there is NO contradiction.

*You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.
James 2:24*

*For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.
Romans 3:28*

Two Sides of the Same Coin

Paul's focus is the basis or cause or root of salvation.
James' focus is the evidence or result or fruit of salvation.

Paul writes about justification before God, which is by faith.
James writes about justification before people, which is by works.

Both Paul and James show that we are saved by faith alone in Christ alone,
but the faith that saves is never alone. That is, it shows itself by works
and proves that our faith is real.

Real Faith Works

1. Works Are Indispensable to VERIFY Faith!

Don't Be Foolish

In the eyes of those around us, our works PROVE the reality of our faith. Without
such visible verification, our faith appears to be useless (vs. 20).

Two Examples

- The works of ABRAHAM proved his faith was real when he offered his son (vs. 21-24).
- The works of RAHAB proved her faith was real when she protected the spies (vs. 25).

2. Works Are Indispensable to VIBRANT Faith!

Concluding Argument

- A faith without works is as DEAD as a body without a spirit (vs. 26).
- A faith with works is ACTIVE and is meant to work in real life (*Hebrews 11*).

Abraham, Rahab, and You

Examine your heart: Do you have real faith like Abraham and Rahab?

Be encouraged: You can verify your faith by your works of obedience
like Abraham and Rahab.

COMMUNION Remembering the Work of Christ

Followers of Jesus Christ (those who trust Christ for salvation, identify with Christ in baptism, and commit to Christ's body in membership of a local church of like faith and practice) are invited to participate in Communion located at the four tables in the auditorium. You may take the bread and cup back to your seat to eat and drink. The bread and juice represent the body and blood of Jesus when He died on the Cross and reminds us who our Lord is, what He has