



Sunday, May 23rd, 2021

Series: "Living by Faith"

TWCC Sermon Connection Outline: "What is Faith and Action?"

Read James 2:14 - 26 (NKJV)

- FAITH IS AN _____! FAITH IS OUR BELIEF IN _____! FAITH IS AN EXPRESSION OF OUR CONFIDENCE IN GOD AND HIS WORD. FAITH IS AN _____ MOTIVATED BY THE WORD OF GOD.
- Faith is... **(1)** A Spiritual Force **(2)** God's Creative Power and **(3)** the Substance of things hoped for and the evidence not seen. Faith works the same in any arena, in any sphere and in any realm. *Friends, our _____ can either be growing or staying stagnant and lying dormant.*
- Faith grows by **(1)** **Feeding** it and **(2)** **Exercising** it. We learned and discovered last week that our Faith can grow exceedingly through spiritual training and exercise via _____ in other to accomplish two powerful and productive things:
 - (1) Break off some chokeholds on your capacity to believe and trust God and receive from God!
 - (2) Conquer the limitations that is negative stronghold of thinking about the things of God!
 - Gloria Copeland said it this way "Don't meditate on the Need. Meditate on the Word for the things you need to Receive!"
- Dear friends, Christianity is worthless without _____, as it is the principal _____ for _____ exploits in the Kingdom of God. Think of it practically and tactically this way - ask yourself these questions whenever you gather and come to Church - **(1)** How much _____ am I bringing to Church? **(2)** Am I **preparing** and **planning** to release and use my _____ in God for the Church and the people of God to receive from God? **(3)** Do I plan to utilize my _____ to _____ the Word and _____ on the Word I hear today? And _____ the plans of the enemy to dissuade me, deceive me, discourage me, and distract me from _____ upon the Word with my _____?

WHERE IS YOUR FAITH?

James 2:17 (NKJV) - "Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

- James by the Holy Spirit in the first part of the text is telling us, I believe, is that...
- Verbal Faith - faith that consists of _____ without corresponding _____ of obedience - is **insufficient!** Why? It cannot and will not _____, serve, or survive.
- When James by the Holy Spirit asks, "**Can faith save him?**" he expects a negative answer, "Of course not!" **A faith that does not demonstrate itself in works (corresponding actions of obedience) is not _____ or _____ Faith.** Remember, **FAITH IS AN ACT! FAITH IS ACTIVE! FAITH WORKS!** These verses also teach us that Faith unaccompanied by works was never _____.
- Friends, a _____ Faith is a _____ Faith! Sometimes, we have to pause, assess, and ask ourselves: "I my faith working?" "Am I putting my faith to work even before I go to work?" "What is my faith working on?"
- **Three Types or Locations of Faith:**
- **#1 - _____ FAITH** - People with dead faith **substitute** words for deeds and actions of obedience. They think that their words are as good as works, and they are wrong. Their walk does not measure up to

their talk. The Greek word translated “dead” in **James 2:20** carries the meaning of “barren or idle,” like money drawing no interest.

- That is why Jesus preached _____ and not doing _____. The first two fundamental doctrines of Christ in **Read Hebrews 6:1 (NKJV)**
- **1st - Repentance From Dead Works; 2nd - Faith Toward God**
- Also, James gives us a glimpse of how people can _____ their faith, but yet they do not _____ that faith in loving works and actions of obedience to God and His Word.
- **#2 - _____ FAITH** - It comes as a shock to people that demons have faith! What do they believe? For one thing, they believe in the existence of God; they are neither atheists nor agnostics. They also believe in the deity of Christ.
- **#3 - _____ FAITH** - **Dynamic faith** is faith that is real, faith that has power, faith that results in a changed life. Dynamic faith both changes _____ and it changes _____. It changes you first: (1) Your thinking, (2) Your believing, and (3) your behavior. **THE FIRST SIGN THAT FAITH IS CHANGING YOU IS _____!**

IS YOUR FAITH WORKING?

James 2:26 (NKJV) - “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”

- Works are actions; **Good works are “actions of obedience” that correspond to the Word of God or a Word from God.** So, what are your actions? **1 Samuel 2:3 (NKJV)** - “Talk no more so very proudly; Let no arrogance come from your mouth, For the Lord is the God of knowledge; And by Him actions are weighed.” It is acting on God’s Word that provokes Him to action!
- Different Kinds of Works in the New Testament:
- **(1) The Works of the Law** - **Read Galatians 2:16 (NKJV)**
 - The being “Rules-oriented” and not “Relationship-oriented” is the bedrock of religious tradition and legalism.
- **(2) The Works of the Flesh** - **Read Galatians 5:19 (NKJV)**
 - Works when you are not “spiritual”, but “carnal” (body-ruled, body conscious and flesh dominated).
 - **Spiritual** = responsive to and controlled by the Holy Spirit; Spirit-filled; Spirit-led.
- **(3) Wicked Works** - **Read Colossians 1:21 (NKJV)**
- **(4) Dead Works** - **Read Hebrews 6:1 (NKJV)**
- **REAL FAITH OBEYS GOD AND PROVES ITSELF IN DAILY LIFE AND WORKS!**
- D.L. Moody often said, “Every Bible should be bound in shoe leather.”
- Don’t be like the church members who fit the description giving in **Titus 1:16 (NKJV)** - “They profess to know God, **but in works they deny Him**, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.”
- Listen to the powerful words of Scripture in **Titus 3:8 (NKJV)** - “This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to **maintain good works.**”
