

NOTES & QUESTIONS

FAITH IS SOMETHING YOU DO

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JAMES 2:14-17

Faith without service is _____.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

1. ICEBREAKER: What is the most outlandish claim you've heard someone make about themselves? Did they have evidence to back it up?
 2. Read James 2:14-17. It is not very long, but take a moment to make some observations. Especially note repeated words, phrases, and ideas. Based on those observations, what are some of the major themes of this passage?
 3. In many places in Scripture, we are told that salvation is a gift we cannot earn through good works, but receive by faith (Ephesians 2:8-9, Titus 3:4-5, Romans 3:20, 27-28, 4:2-5). So, what does James mean when says that faith without deeds cannot save in James 2:14 (see also 2:24)?
 4. What specific kind of good deeds does James have in mind in this passage (see James 2:15-16, also 1:27)? Why are those kinds of deeds evidence of our faith?
 5. In James 2:14 and 16, James asks "what good is it" if we do not serve others. There is damage done when we do not serve the needs around us. What are some of the negative consequences when Christians claim to have faith but don't show it through meeting tangible needs? (Think about it from multiple angles—how it negatively affects people in need, the world watching Christians, culture overall, the church, individual Christians, etc.)
 6. What positive effects have you seen in your own life that came from times when you served someone in need? In the lives of people around you?
 7. What barriers (internal or external) have you experienced that keep you from serving people with tangible needs? What could you do to overcome them?
 8. Pull up the list of Christ Community's Community Impact partners for your campus on the website (cccilife.org/communityimpact). Have you served with any of them? Any that catch your interest?
 9. As we come to the end of this short series on serving, what has changed for you? Have you found your place to serve? If not, what's your next step?
- PRAYER PROMPT: Pick one of our Community Impact or International Impact partners from the website and pray for them to have an increase in volunteers and support, their effectiveness in meeting tangible needs, and the spread of the gospel through their acts of service.