

“WHEN FAITH DOESN’T WORK”
Genuine Faith Is Ratified by Good Works
Part #2 - James 2:18-26

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- True faith, James says, has to be shown by work; otherwise the world does not know of the genuine godly trust of the child of God.
- The Christian is justified by faith before God but is justified before humans through the works they can see!

I. INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS. James 2:14

“What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?”

II. CHARACTERISTICS OF GENUINE FAITH. James 2:15-20

- A. It is involved – not indifferent. 15-16
- B. It is in partnership – not independent. 17
- C. It is **on display**. 18
- D. It is **from the heart**. 19-20

III. EXAMPLES OF GENUINE FAITH. James 2:21-25

- A. Abraham, the revered **patriarch**. 21-24

The father of the Hebrews
A man of power and respect
The recipient of God’s promises

- B. Rahab, the reformed **prostitute**. 25

A Gentile harlot
A woman of ill-repute
The breaker of God’s moral laws

IV. CONCLUDING PRINCIPLE. James 2:26

Personal Reflections

1. First, if I claim to be saved, on what do I base my salvation?
2. Second, if I claim to have this kind of salvation experience, what evidence is there that my faith in Christ is real?