## Sunday School Lesson for the Month of June, 2022

# A Faith That Is Alive!

(James 2:14-26)

## Sunday, June 5, 2022

A preacher once said, "Brethren, whatever the good Lord tells me to do in this blessed book, that I'm going to do. If I see in it that I must jump through a stone wall, I'm going to jump at it. Going through it belongs to God, jumping at it belongs to me." Doing something of that nature demand a living faith that responds in obedience to God's will.

James talks about a living faith that changes lives! A faith that causes believers to do things they otherwise would not do.

## Sunday, June 12, 2022

#### I. <u>Living faith is not an empty claim (vs. 14-16).</u>

- A. For many, faith is only a word. Note in verse 14, James does not imply that a man can have faith and no works. Instead, James raises a rhetorical question: What is the profit, if a person says he has faith but has no works? James will not even admit that it is a possibility. The man pictured is one who talks of faith, talks of things of a spiritual nature, talks of religion, but does not exhibit change.
- B. James illustrates his own case in pointing to the tradition of almsgiving. One was expected to give to the poor in those days. Simply giving lip service to the poor left them just as destitute. So is true today! If one sees a brother starving, do his hunger pains go away on well-wishing? Do nice remarks warm the body and shield from the bitter cold? Likewise, faith must be accompanied by action (1 John 3:18).

## Sunday, June 19, 2022

#### II. Faith is not an Intellectual Creed (vs. 17-19).

- A. The Bible is clear that if you have not come to God through Christ, you have not come to Him at all. Knowing about God will get you nowhere. James makes that clear. He points out that even the Devil believes in God; surely, he is not going to heaven. One writher says, "knowledge about God can no more connect man with God than sight of the sun can carry you into the heavens."
- B. People may be the proponents of great doctrine, but their doctrine is meaningless until they come to a living faith in Jesus. This faith surpasses word with deed, knowledge with relationship, and importance with obedience.

## Sunday, June 26, 2022

### III. Faith without works is Dead (vs. 20-26)!

Jesus invites you to learn about living faith in verse 20. Those who put trust in

works of faith and knowledge of faith alone are foolish. They are so puffed up with spiritual insight that any higher wisdom is shut off. But they can learn, maybe by looking at two Old Testament Faith Heroes: Abraham and Rahab!

An authentic faith is one that works. Faith and deeds are not opposites; they are inseparable. What kind of faith is yours? Is your faith dead or alive? Look at the evidence. Evaluate yourself by James' principles and by answering this question: If you were put on trial for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you? There will be enough only if your faith is a living faith!