



MESSAGE 1: REAL FAITH VERSUS FAKE FAITH Parts 1-2

James 2:14-20

Emphasis:	PAUL How to KNOW I'm saved	JAMES How to SHOW I'm saved
Focus: (internal d	The ROOT of my salvation & unseen)	The FRUIT of my salvation (external & visible)
Works:	Keeping Jewish Laws	Living like Jesus

HOW DO I KNOW MY FAITH IS REAL?

1. REAL FAITH IS MORE THAN JUST

"Dear brothers and sisters, what's the use of <u>SAYING you have faith</u> if you don't prove it by your actions? <u>That kind</u> of faith can't save anyone!" James 2:14

JESUS: "<u>Not everyone who SAYS</u> that I am their Lord is going to enter the kingdom of heaven. The only people who'll enter heaven are those who <u>DO what my Father in heaven wants them to DO</u>." Matthew 7:21 (NCV)

2. REAL FAITH IS MORE THAN ____

"Suppose you see a brother or sister who needs food or clothing, and you say to them, 'I wish you well! I FEEL FOR YOU and I hope you stay warm and eat well!' but then you <u>DO nothing</u> to meet their needs. <u>What good does</u> your sympathy <u>DO</u>? It's worth nothing! In the same way, faith, if it is not accompanied by action, doesn't work. It's dead and useless!" James 2:15-17

3. REAL FAITH IS MORE THAN

"Now someone <u>may argue</u>, 'Isn't it possible that some people have good faith while other people DO good deeds?" But I say, 'No! I <u>can't see</u> your real faith if you don't DO any real deeds to <u>SHOW ME</u>!' In contrast, <u>I CAN SHOW</u> <u>YOU</u> my faith by the good <u>things I DO</u>!" James 2:18

4. REAL FAITH IS MORE THAN _____

"Now, you say, 'Well, <u>I BELIEVE</u> there is a God,' and I say, 'Good for you!' But even the <u>demons believe THAT</u> and are afraid! It's foolish to not realize that <u>faith in God is useless if you don't DO what he wants you to DO</u>." James 2:19-20

5. REAL FAITH IS _

"Just as a body without a spirit doesn't breathe and is dead, so faith that <u>doesn't DO anything</u> is just as dead!" James 2:26

"STAND firm in your faith. Stay brave, be strong, and do everything in love." 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

2 EXAMPLES OF REAL (ACTIVE) FAITH

• (IN FAITH) ABRAHAM FOLLOWED GOD

"Isn't it obvious that faith and works are yoked partners, that <u>faith expresses itself in works</u>? That the works are <u>'works of faith</u>?" James 2:22 (MSG)

"...<u>God accepted Abraham's faith</u>, and <u>that faith made him right with God</u>. So Abraham was called 'the <u>friend of</u> <u>God</u>."" James 2:23 (NCV)

(IN FAITH) RAHAB RISKED HER LIFE

James 2:25-26 & Joshua 2

"<u>Examine yourselves</u> TO SEE whether you are in the faith; TEST yourselves." 2 Corinthians 13:5

"It is <u>BY grace</u> you have been saved <u>THROUGH faith</u>... <u>FOR a life of good works</u> which God has already prepared for us to do." Ephesians 2:8-10 (TEV)