



## **REVIEW: Living Faith vs. Dead Faith (James 2:14-26)**

*Reflect on what we learned about real faith and its evidence in daily life.*

### **Read:**

- **James 2:14-26** again slowly.
- **Ephesians 2:8-10** - Saved by grace for good works
- **Matthew 5:19** - Good works give glory to God
- **1 John 2:3-6** - Obedience reveals relationship

### **Reflect:**

1. Where in my life do I talk more about faith than act on it?
2. Do I see areas where I've grown complacent?
3. What visible evidence is there that my faith is alive and growing?

### **Pray:**

- Ask God to show you areas of passivity or dead faith.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to stir boldness, obedience, and compassion in you.

## **PREVIEW: Living Faith Speaks with Control (James 3:1-12)**

*James shifts to the power of our words and how they reflect the condition of our hearts.*

### **Read ahead:**

- **James 3:1-12**
- **Proverbs 18:21** - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue"
- **Luke 6:45** - "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks"

### **Journal Prompt:**

- When was the last time your words built someone up? When did they tear down?
- What does your speech say about your spiritual health?
- Are you quick to listen and slow to speak? (**James 1:19**)

## GOING DEEPER: More Scripture on Fruit-Bearing Faith

*These passages support the fact that real faith is active, obedient, and visibly transformative*

- **Matthew 7:16–21** – "You will know them by their fruits"
- **John 15:5–8** – "Bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples"
- **Titus 1:16** – "They profess to know God, but deny Him by their works"
- **Titus 2:14** – "Zealous for good works"
- **2 Peter 1:5–10** – "Make every effort to confirm your calling..."
- **Hebrews 6:9–10** – "Things that accompany salvation"
- **Philippians 2:12–13** – "Work out your salvation... for it is God who works in you"

*Let your faith breathe this week. Let it move, speak, and serve. Living faith isn't just believed—it's visible.*

### **Heart Examination:**

*Use these questions to search your heart this week. Be honest and prayerful. This is about real faith.*

1. Was there ever a time when it really hit you that you were a sinner—and you told God that yourself?
2. Have you ever felt a deep need to turn away from your sin? Does your sin bother you? Or do you find yourself still wanting to hold on to certain things?
3. Do you understand what Jesus did for you—that He died for your sins and rose again? And have you stopped trying to save yourself and started trusting Him to save you?
4. Is your faith in Jesus changing you? Can you see signs of Him working in your life—maybe in how you think, what you care about, or how you treat people?
5. Do you ever feel a pull to share your faith or talk about Jesus with others? Or is that something you tend to avoid?
6. Do you look forward to being with other believers—worshiping together, growing together—or does that feel like more of a chore?
7. If Jesus came back today, would you feel ready and excited... or would there be some hesitation or fear?

*These questions aren't meant to shame—they're meant to help. If you're feeling unsure about your relationship with Jesus, you're not alone. Talk to Him honestly, and don't be afraid to reach out to someone who can walk with you. You don't have to figure it out by yourself.*

**Psalm 139: 23-24 NKJV**

***Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.***