

GROWTH GUIDE

For you. Your family. Your group.

THE BOOK OF JAMES
GENUINE FAITH | JAMES 2:14-26
FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9, 2022

SERMON OUTLINE

1. Faith that is dead is useless.
2. Faith that is genuine is active.

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Looking back at the passage and your notes, is there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. What does James mean in v24 when he says "...a person is justified by works and not by faith alone"? Aren't we saved by faith, not works? (Eph 2:8-9).
3. Share some other passages of Scripture with the group that speaks to how works, faith and justification relate to one another.
4. What are some signs that faith is genuine? Similarly, how can you spot dead faith? If all of us fail to live out our faith perfectly just like Christ did, how is that we can have assurance of salvation?
5. To what degree are we called to evaluate others' salvation, knowing we can see the fruit of their life, yet acknowledging ultimately only God knows everything?

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

1. Where are you at with the assurance of your own salvation? Do you sometimes doubt your own faith is genuine? If so, what sort of thoughts lead you to that place? If not, what in particular helps you have such confidence?
2. As you look at your own walk with Christ, where can you see opportunities for your faith to have greater effect on your actions and life?

PRAYER POINTS

1. Praise God that our salvation doesn't depend on our own ability to do enough good works, but on Jesus's finished work on the cross for us.
2. Pray that City on a Hill would truly be a church built on prayer, and not just profess it as something we're about.
3. Ask God to reveal areas in our lives where we are not genuinely living out our faith.