



Discussion Guide

February 8, 2015



Discussion Questions	Leader Notes
<p>Faith Requires Action A century has sailed by since the luxury steamship RMS Titanic met its catastrophic end in the North Atlantic, plunging two miles to the ocean floor after sideswiping an iceberg during its maiden voyage. Rather than the intended Port of New York, a deep-sea grave became the pride of the White Star Line's final destination in the early hours of April 15, 1912. More than 1,500 people lost their lives in the disaster. This infamous tragedy could have been avoided. The Titanic was equipped with a Marconi wireless and there had been sporadic reports of ice from other ships. Regardless, Captain Smith chose to disregard the reports and maintain the current speed, which hindered the ship's ability to avoid the iceberg that led to her demise. It is not enough to simply hear and know.</p>	<p>Before you begin today, think of a time in your life when you've been around someone who was a poser.</p> <p>* Helpful Hint: Get people involved in the discussion by asking non-threatening questions that will engage the whole group.</p>
<p>Discussion Kick Off</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We've all heard the expression, "Talk is cheap." When have you seen some cheap talk? Maybe it was a car salesman who didn't drive the brand he sold or a "big fan" of UK or UL, but can't name a single player. 2. Have you ever known what you should do, yet chose not to act on what you knew? 	<p>"The activist is not the one who says the river is dirty. The activist is the one cleans up the river." –Ross Perot</p>
<p>Evaluate It</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do some people rationalize inactive faith? 2. James says faith without works is not faith, and Paul says faith alone justifies you. Are they in conflict? Why or why not? 3. Abraham and Rahab represent two ends of the spectrum. One is a father of the Jewish people and the other a prostitute from a foreign country. Why did James choose this unlikely pair? How did Abraham and Rahab demonstrate their faith? 4. Abraham and Isaac's moment on the mountain was belief and action that increased his faith to a standard, which raised the bar. That's what our service and action does; service and activity increases your faith. How? How does this happen? 5. James closes chapter two with, "faith without works is dead." Why is faith without works dead? Why do you think he feels it's necessary to emphasize this? 	<p>Read James 2:14-26. Make it more interesting by reading from the Message version (free on the You Version Bible App).</p> <p>Paul writes in Romans 3:28, "Man is justified by faith apart from observing the law." Galatians 2:16 says, "Man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ." Luke's quote of Paul in Acts, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."</p>
<p>Make It Personal</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When you are at school, when you are at work, when you are in our community, do the actions of your hands and feet display the faith that you have? 2. You can tell the date a person's faith died by the date of the last action their faith took. Are you serving regularly in ministry? Are you moving the nudges and urging the Holy Spirit in your life? If not, why? What step do you need to take? 	<p>Leaders, if any of your group members are interested in serving direct them to the link on fccetown.com that was mentioned in the sermon.</p>
<p>Take It Home <i>"The world does not need a definition of religion as much as it needs a demonstration."</i> <i>-Martin Luther</i></p> <p><i>"James point is still true from a pure logic standpoint: it's foolish to call ourselves Christians if Christ-likeness is not part of our life. What you believe AND what you do are woven together into who you really are."</i> –Stuart Jones</p>	<p>At the end of the discussion, take a moment to take prayer requests from the group (if you haven't done so) and pray for your group before you end your time together.</p>

Starting a Table or Life Group? Take a look at the helpful information below.

Who establishes and makes up a table or life group?

1. Husband & Wife
2. Family
3. 2-5 Guys
4. 2-5 Ladies
5. 2-5 Couples

Where do they meet?

1. Kitchen table
2. Coffee table
3. Cafe table
4. Restaurant table
5. Picnic table
6. Work table
7. Round table

- Meeting (how often, how long): Weekly or bi-weekly (day and time is decided by the group). No more than 2 hours.
- Who should lead a table or life group? Leadership can be shared or the group may choose a leader.
- How long should the group stay together? The group should commit to stay together 6-8 weeks. Groups can renew their commitment to meet together at the end of that time, but initially groups should stay together 6-8 weeks.
- What happens if the group is too big to meet around a table? No table or life group should have more than 15 individuals. If a group grows to have more than 15 participants, there are two options:
 - Multiply into separate tables (groups of less than 15) or
 - Seek to establish a life group (10-20 participants)
- If you have any questions or would like to establish a life group, please contact Jason Fox at 270-765-4994 or jason@fcetown.com.

If you would like to talk with a minister,
call 270-765-4994 to set up an appointment or contact.

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