

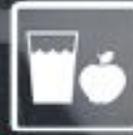
Life Group Discussion Guide

WORKING UP A SWEAT

James 2:14-13

Stuart Jones - July 21, 2019

JIM CLASS



INTRODUCTION

The James 2:24 MSG asks, “Is it not evident that a person is made right with God not by a barren faith but by faith fruitful in works?” You believe in God and what the Bible says, but what are you doing with what you believe?

A smile to someone, mowing someone’s lawn, a dollar in the Dollar Club Box, a prayer for missionaries, a visit to someone who is homebound, a kind word—these are acts of “faith fruitful in works.” Ask God how you can turn a barren faith into a fruitful faith. He will show you how.

DISCUSSION STARTER

1. There are all kinds of fakes in the world; fake Oakley sunglasses (Foakleys), fake leather (pleather) and fake Louis Vuitton purses (sorry no name for this one). How would you explain something is phony or fake to a child even though it appears genuine?
2. You have more than likely heard or said the phrase, “Talk is cheap.” What is the meaning behind that phrase and when do we tend to use it?

EVALUATE IT

1. Read James 2:14-26. James says faith without works is not faith and Paul says faith alone justifies you. Are they in conflict? Why or why not? If not, what is James showing us here?
2. Abraham and Rahab represent two ends of the spectrum. One, the 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?
3. Stuart said, "No matter what you've already done or used to do; no matter how young you are or how old you are; action increases faith." How does action increase faith? If action increases faith, could inaction decrease faith?
4. James closes Chapter 2 with, "faith without works is dead." Why is faith without works dead? Why do you think he feels it necessary to emphasize this?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Martin Luther said, "The world does not need a definition of religion as much as it needs a demonstration." Do the actions of your hands and feet demonstrate the faith you have?
2. Stuart asked, "The options are here, the tools are here, what will you do even today to help your faith take flight?" What is one simple tangible action you can add to your week that would be an outward physical action to what you believe internally?



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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