

## James 2:14-26 New Living Translation

### Faith without Good Deeds Is Dead

**14** What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? **15** Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, **16** and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?

**17** So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

**18** Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

**19** You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. [a] Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. **20** How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?

**21** Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? **22** You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. **23** And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." [b] He was even called the friend of God. [c] **24** So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone.

**25** Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road.

**26** Just as the body is dead without breath, [d] so also faith is dead without good works.

### Footnotes

- a. [2:19](#) Some manuscripts read *that God is one*; see [Deut 6:4](#).
- b. [2:23a](#) Gen 15:6.
- c. [2:23b](#) See Isa 41:8.
- d. [2:26](#) Or without spirit.

### Questions:

1. What should be the result of faith in God?
2. How can you show your faith is real according to verses 16 & 17?
3. Give an example in how you can do this in your life.
4. Good works or deeds should follow your faith just as Abraham believed God and in faith offered his son Isaac on an altar.  
  
Are you saved from your sins by faith or good deeds?  
Explain
5. If God saves you by faith through Christ's death on the cross - How should you live your life in response?