

“FOR THE FAITH”
“INTEGRATING OUR FAITH INTO OUR DAILY LIVES”
Text: James 2:14-18

INTRODUCTION: Faith is, and has always been a required element for the *Christian life*. The moment of one’s salvation is just the beginning of an entire lifetime of faith. The works that we do in our lives either contradict or _____ *the reality of our faith*. The Book of James provides for believers in Christ, several lessons on how to integrate our faith into everyday living experiences. For a believer to develop and to live a *godly, separated, faith-filled lifestyle*, faith and works **must** merge. The **one theme** that saturates the entire book of James is “*I will shew thee my faith by my works.*” That theme alone is the life quest of every blood bought believer of Jesus Christ. Each of us must allow our *faith* to work its way out from our hearts and into our life practices and _____.

It is truly our *faith* that should be **integrated** in our actions, our reactions, our words, our thoughts, our relationships, our desires, our decisions, our life plans and every others area of our lives. The *Oxford American Dictionary* defines the verb “**integrate**” in the following way: “*to combine one thing with another so that they become a whole.*” Do you see your faith life working that way? Do I?

The core idea behind this lesson is that our faith should be so integrated in our life that no part of our life goes unaffected. As our faith and our daily life converge on one another, they must “**become whole,**” or “**one**” with each other. In this lesson, James, by the inspiration of God’s Spirit provides for us **three perspectives on showing our faith by our works.**

I. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF _____ OUR FAITH INTO OUR DAILY LIVES.

Each of us have been taught, and we have also been guilty of teaching others that faith in Christ is **all** that is necessary for salvation, and ***we are right!***

Yet we also agree that *salvation* is not the end of the Christian life, it is just the

_____.

God’s will is not fulfilled by merely *believing* the right things (James 2:19).

It takes only *moments* to arrive at the *right set of beliefs*, but it takes a *lifetime* to _____ the right behavior.

A. Our Actions Accompany our _____.

While James readily agreed with Paul that faith alone saves us (Romans 3-4), James explains that the faith that saves us **will be** accompanied by _____ consistent with that faith!

James clearly understood that it is a “_____ - _____ Faith” that saves us and that that kind of faith will **always** produce *Spirit-filled action*.

B. Our Actions Attest to our Faith (Attest = to provide or serve as clear evidence of, to certify)

The *genuineness of a Christian's faith* is seen in their _____.

John 5:36 – the Works of Jesus bore witness of His Sonship with the Father (God).

II. THE _____ FOR INTEGRATING OUR FAITH INTO OUR DAILY LIVES.

To *integrate our faith* into our everyday lives, we must be surrendered enough to let the **Word of God** penetrate our hearts and minds _____.

In **James 1:22-25** -James shares with us three steps to help us integrate our faith into our lives through our exposure to God's Word:

A. We Must Look into the Word of God. (Joshua 1:8)

Each of us is more equipped to living our faith is we read and apply God's Word regularly.

B. We Must do _____ With the Word of God. (Vs. 22-23)

If we *dutifully* and *prayerfully* spend time in the mirror of **God's Word**, we will find things that need to be changed in _____!

Luke 6:46-49 – (Read)

Let us agree that Hearing God's Word and Doing His Words are not the same thing!

We make a *dreadful* and *appalling mistake* when what we learn from God's Word is left inside the walls of this church.

C. We Must _____ in the Word of God. (James 1:25)

Sadly, there will never come a time in our lives when living out our faith becomes _____.

I Corinthians 10:12 – “Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he _____.”

I Timothy 4:16 – “Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing _____ thou shalt save thyself, and them that hear thee.”

Luke 11:3 – “Give us day by day our _____ bread.”

II Corinthians 4:16 – “For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed _____ by _____.”

Each of us, as professing Christians, are better in Christ's Service and more effective in the ministry of this New Testament Church when we remember that the *Christian life* is a *daily life*.

Let's be honest enough tonight to ask ourselves, If our faith life is being seen in our daily lives.

What steps should I/We take tonight to properly *integrate our faith into our daily lives*?

Let's look into the **Mirror of God's Word** and let's give ourselves to the changes that in many cases are long overdue and much needed!

Next Week: The _____ of Integrating Our Faith into our Daily Lives.