

Faith that Works: Living Out of Your Beliefs

Dead or Alive: The Works that Prove Your Faith

Heavenly Father,
Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time
Enjoying one moment at a time
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; taking, as He did
This sinful world as it is, not as I would have it
Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him forever in the next.
In Jesus name, Amen.

Works refer to actions and behaviors that demonstrate a person's faith. These works are not the means of salvation (which is by grace through faith), but rather the outward evidence of an inward transformation. James 2:14-26, for example, emphasizes that faith without works is dead.

“You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed in God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God’s friend. You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone. In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.”-James 2:14-26

James was explaining the issue about works of faith and works. If you do not have faith and be a doer of God, it will be harder to get into heaven. He was talking to the Jewish Christians. James argues that true faith is not merely a matter of belief but must be accompanied by actions and good works. James emphasizes that true, saving faith is demonstrated through actions and good works. Faith that doesn't produce works is not a living, saving faith.

1. Serve others
2. Live with integrity
3. Sharing the Gospel
4. Cultivate a personal relationship with God.
5. strive to align your actions with your faith by actively serving others
6. practicing compassion
7. Ask God to reveal specific ways you can act on your faith and to guide your actions
8. Regularly reading the Bible will help you understand God's will and how to live a life that pleases Him.

9. Actively participate in household chores
10. show love and patience to family members, and offer support during difficult times
11. Be honest and fair in your dealings
12. treat colleagues with respect, and go the extra mile to help others succeed. I wrote and submitted letters of recommendations to homeless men and women in Chicago to help them get Jobs in the private sector that they still have today. I was able to provide letters of recommendations to men and women in Chicago working at temp agencies on why they should hire them as permanent employees. Those people still have jobs in Chicago today.
13. Volunteer your time
14. Support local charities
15. Be a positive influence in your neighborhood.

Are there areas where your actions contradict your faith? If you believe in helping the poor, consider how you can actively contribute to that cause. Genuine faith isn't just a verbal declaration, it's visible through your actions. Integrity means your faith is evident in everything you do. If you claim to love God, your actions should demonstrate that love by extending compassion and help to others.