

HOW TO KNOW IF YOUR FAITH IS ALIVE

James 2:14-26

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. LIVING FAITH PRODUCES ONE-WAY LOVE
2. LIVING FAITH TRUSTS THAT GOD IS ENOUGH

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. Faith in God is an idea that can feel nebulous at times. What comes to your mind when the topic of faith comes up?
3. James doesn't give a dictionary definition of faith in chapter 2. Instead, he tells us what faith looks like when it's alive. Describe a time when you personally witnessed the type of living faith that James describes.
4. In James 2, we see that living faith produces one-way love. When have you received one-way love in your life? When have you been able to give one-way love? (**Bonus Question:** Do you view "the poor" like God does? Why or why not?)
5. In the examples of Abraham and Rahab, we see that living faith trusts that God is enough. Dead faith always treats God as a means to an end. Living faith sees God as the end. What are some of the ways you have treated God as a means to an end in your own life? What has helped shape you into a person who sees that God, Himself, really is enough?
6. After reading James 2:14-26 and hearing the teaching on Sunday, how would you describe the "vital signs" of your own faith?
7. **PRAY:** Ask God to reveal to us the ways we try to use Him as a means to an end and ask Him to shape us into a people who love those who can't benefit us. Ask Him to make us a people of living faith.

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: If you want to be the type of person who lays down their life for those in need and trusts that God really is enough then you need to see Jesus laying down His life for you.