

BIG TRUTH: FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD

Romans 3:28; Galatians 5:6; Hebrews 11:32-40

BIBLE VERSE: JAMES 2:26

"For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead."

BIG IDEAS

- Good works are selfless actions motivated by love for God and others.
- A faith that doesn't work for the good of others isn't from Jesus.
- Good works cannot save, but are a proof of genuine faith.

BIBLE PASSAGE: JAMES 2:14-26

TRANSFORM: LIVING FOR JESUS

In High School, the Transform Year is an exploration of what it looks like to have transformed influence as we seek to live for a Kingdom that is greater than our own. First, we recognize that we will never be transformed if we are not Living for Jesus. To do this, we must first know who Jesus is by looking at who He says He is (John 8:58), and then look at what the Bible says about how in Him, we live by faith (James 1:6). Next, we recognize that to have transformed influence means that we must live as disciples in pursuit of Christ and His Kingdom over ourselves and our own kingdoms.

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know...

- God is a God of compassion and mercy.
- We are prone to self-deception.
- If our faith does not have works, it is dead.



Every student should feel...

- Joy, even in trials, because of God's goodness.
- Thankful for every good and perfect gift from the Father.
- Responsible to use their influence for Jesus alone.



Every student should strive to...

- Read the entire book of James.
- Memorize the Bible verse each week.
- Reject and repent of faith without works.



Every student should want...

- To grow in their understanding of biblical faith.
- To practice religion based on what Scripture says, not the world, culture, or our feelings.
- To know and generously show mercy.

FAMILY WORKOUT:

This week we will ponder how to discuss with our son or daughter that real faith is revealed by actions. We will pray for them to live out their faith. We will lead them to practice loving God and others.



Read James 2:14-26 and answer these questions to help you study and discuss the book of James with your son or daughter:

- Consider how James connects loving our neighbors as ourselves in 2:8 with pure religion. How is this our faith in action?
- What is the difference in the belief of the demons and true faith? What does it mean to live out our faith?
- Do works save us? How are our works closely connected to the genuineness of our faith?
- What are “good works” and why does it matter that our lives are marked by them?

Read and meditate on James 2:14-26 this week.

- Consider how you might discuss with your son or daughter the difference between “good works” and the world’s idea of doing good. What is the difference between being a moral person and doing the “good works” that God has prepared for us? How can you model this for your son or daughter?
- How can you discuss with your son or daughter what it looks like to live out your faith? How can you help them understand that genuine faith is lived out in our actions?



Pray with your son or daughter this week.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to guide them to live out their faith in action.
- Pray with your small group student this week. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your student to share the gospel with a friend this week.



Consider memorizing James 2:26 with your son or daughter this week.

- Write the verse on an index card. Make a game of memorizing the verse and see who can learn it first.
- Discuss with your son or daughter some ways that you live out your faith. Share some ways that you see he or she living out their faith.
- Meet with your student to discuss some ways that him or her can share the gospel this week. Discuss with them some conversation starters to help them enter into gospel conversations with friends.