

Look Back: How is considering what generosity might cost you right now “testing” your trust in God’s ability to meet all of your needs?

Look Up:

Read James 2:14-19

1. In verse 14 what point was he trying to make?
2. How do you currently define what faith is in your life?
3. How does James challenge his readers in verse 18?
4. How does James differentiate “faith” from “belief” in verse 19?

Read James 2:24 and 1 Thessalonians 1:4-9

5. How does Paul describe their “faith” in comparison to James?
6. How does Paul describe the relationship between “faith”, “love”, “hope” and “deeds” in verse 3?
7. What impact did the attitude and actions of the Thessalonians have on the people around them?

Overall (Discovery Bible Study)

- What do these scriptures say about God?
- What do they say about people?
- How will I apply this to my life?

Look Ahead: How do I take my faith from concept to action?

Notes

Faith can easily fade into apathy. In reality, we show our true convictions through our actions, not just our words. As followers of Jesus, our faith must be more than belief - our faith must be seen in deeds that are done out of love for others and the hope we have in Jesus Christ. While our personal faith grows through our actions, our actions help others grow in their faith. Faith IS rescuing and empowering. So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone. James 2:24