

Review:

**Lesson 1:** Faith and Adversity

**Lesson 2:** Faith and Temptations

**Lesson 3:** Faith and God's Word

**Lesson 4:** Faith and Equality

## Faith and Works

James 2:14-26

*Claiming outwardly to be pursuing a connection with God but living my life as if He does not exist is, according to scripture, the very picture of hypocrisy. Being a Christ follower is ultimately so much more than \_\_\_\_\_.*

**Discussion 1. A faith that results in works has much to do with WHY we are doing the works. What are some right motives for doing good works? What are some wrong or unhealthy motives for doing good works?**

*Authentic faith means living in relationship with God, striving to find ways to \_\_\_\_\_ with God and growing in my understanding of God and my love for God. All of this separates us from the demons who also believe in God.*

**Discussion 2. For you personally, how does living in relationship with God look different from just believing in God?**

*Across all of scripture, God's vision for authentic faith has remained unchanged: it is a heartfelt belief that naturally leads to actions of overt \_\_\_\_\_ for God and for others.*

**Discussion 3. Is it possible for actions that look like love for God or for others are NOT motivated by an authentic faith but by something else? If so, what kinds of questions can you ask yourself to make sure your "works" are motivated by authentic faith?**

*Authentic faith, expressed through actions, is a picture of a vital, \_\_\_\_\_ Faith without actions is like a body without a spirit. It is the "undead". It is a zombie.*

**Discussion 4. Think about the fruit tree analogy (a tree will be known by its fruit). If your life lacks "fruit" (i.e., lacks works of love for God or for others), how do you address that problem...do more works? Or something else?**

**Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?**