

F A I T H

MORE THAN WORDS

PART 2

Week 1: “The faith” – God’s systematic teaching revealed in scripture.

- God delivered it “once, for all time” to the church.
- Believers are obligated to protect and preserve the faith (i.e. truth).
- Satan is determined to distort “the Faith” (i.e. truth).

Today: Why authentic faith is vital and what authentic faith looks like.

➤ **WHY IS IT SO VITAL THAT I HAVE AUTHENTIC FAITH?**

1. Because I _____ without it.

*Without faith no one can please God. [^L For; Because] Anyone who comes to God must believe that he is real [exists] and that he rewards those who truly want to find [earnestly/sincerely seek] him. **Hebrews 11:6** (EXB)*

2. Because I _____ without it.

*For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. **1 John 5:4** (NLT)*

3. Because I _____ without it.

*I said that you will die with your sins unforgiven. If you don't have faith in me for who I am, you will die, and your sins will not be forgiven. **John 8:24** (CEV)*

4. Because I _____ without it.

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith... **Ephesians 2:8a** (NIV)*

NOTE: The use of the term “authentic” or “saving” faith clearly indicates the existence of an “_____” and “_____ -saving” kind of faith.

➤ **WHAT DOES INAUTHENTIC (_____ - SAVING) FAITH LOOK LIKE?**

1. It is the “kind” that _____ but does not produce _____.

...what good is it to say you have faith, when you don't do anything to show that you really do have faith? Can that kind of faith save you? James 2:14 (CEV)

2. It is the “kind” of faith that _____ but _____.

To the man who thinks that faith by itself is enough I feel inclined to say, “So you believe that there is one God? That’s fine. So do all the devils in hell and shudder in terror! James 2: 18, 19 (Phillips)

3. It is the “kind” of faith that is dead and useless because it is _____.

For, my dear short-sighted man, can’t you see far enough to realize that faith without the right actions is dead and useless? James 2:20 (Phillips)

So you see that what he believed and what he did were working together. What he did made his faith complete. James 2:22 (NIrV)

- This incomplete faith might also be described as _____ faith.

➤ **WHAT DOES AUTHENTIC (_____) FAITH LOOK LIKE?**

- A “complete,” authentic, saving faith is the kind that combines faith (i.e., my _____) and faithfulness (i.e., my _____).
- Authentic faith is personified in the lives of Abraham and Rahab

Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. ²³ And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." He was even called the friend of God. ²⁴ So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone. ²⁵ Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road. James 2:21-25 (NLT)

1. Authentic Saving Faith is the kind that _____.

2. Authentic Saving Faith is the kind that _____.

3. Authentic Saving Faith is the kind that _____.

Removing action from faith is like removing breath from a body. All you have left is a corpse. James 2:26 (VOICE)