

Unit 29, Session 4

Doers of the Word

James 1–2

Story Point: James said that faith without works is useless.

James wrote a letter to the Jewish believers. He told them the way believers should live. James explained that talking about God and the church is not enough. We have to do what God says. James wrote, "Be doers of the word. If you hear the word but don't do it, you fool yourselves." God's Word shows us the truth about ourselves. Anyone who hears and does the Word will be blessed.

James explained that people who really love God will show care to people too. God is honored when believers show their faith with actions. One way to do this is by helping orphans and widows.

We show love in what we say and do. James also wrote, "What good is it if someone says he has faith but does not do what is good and right? If someone is cold and hungry and you say to him, 'Go in peace, stay warm, and be well fed,' but you don't give him clothes or food, what good is it?" James said that in the same way, faith without works is useless.

Anyone can say that he has faith, but true faith is proven by good works. Abraham showed his faith when he obeyed God and got ready to sacrifice his son Isaac. Rahab showed her faith by risking her life to hide the spies in Jericho. God does not accept people because they do what is good and right; He accepts people who have true faith in Jesus.

Christ Connection: Jesus said, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word" (John 14:23). James reminded believers to be doers of the word. Jesus rescues us from sin and frees us to live a life that honors God. By doing what is good and right, people who trust Jesus can show that they really believe in Him.



The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- How well do you know the Bible? Complete this quiz:
  - 1. Second book of the Major Prophets:
  - 2. Last book of the New Testament:
  - 3. First book of the New Testament:
  - 4. Longest book in the Bible:
  - 5. Book written by Luke about the Holy Spirit and early church:
  - 6. Book that tells of the Israelites' escape from Egypt:
- What does this story teach us about God?

• Why is it important to take action based on what you believe?

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• How does God help us live out our faith?

• What good is it to listen to God's Word but not do what it says?

• How does our obedience to God's Word relate to how much we trust Him?

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• Find Romans 12:5 in your Bible and write the words below.

• Write a prayer to God, thanking God for His Word. Pray that the Holy Spirit would help you remember the truth and understand the Bible as you spend time listening to and reading the Word.

## **READ THE WORD**

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

Hebrews 13:20-21

Ephesians 2:10

□ James 2:18-19

Titus 3:14

**Ephesians 2:8-9** 

□ Matthew 5:16