

## LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

*JAMES*

These questions are for the **July 12, 2015 Sermon**, "Authentic Faith, Part 1." Please read the sermon passage (James 2:14-19) together out loud.

### Sermon Outline:

AUTHENTIC FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST IS . . .

1. **Made evident by our works** (14)
  - A. Works provide credentials for our faith.
  - B. Works should show the world that what we say about what we believe is real.
2. **Made distinguishable by our compassion** (15-17)
  - A. The people around us should see tangible kindnesses in the lives of true Christ-followers.
  - B. Faith without any works is truly dead. It's just talk.
3. **Made observable by our convictions** (18-19)
  - A. The work that truly saves any believer is the work of Jesus Christ.
  - B. Demons believe and shudder. Believers believe and grow into the likeness of Christ.

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: If you were accused of being a Christ-follower, would your changed life and works provide evidence of your conversion? Talk about where you see evidence and good works in the life of someone present here tonight.
2. Based on #1, above: We regularly emphasize that salvation comes by belief in Christ and faith in his work alone. But grapple with this quote from John Calvin: "Salvation is by faith alone, but not by faith which remains alone."
3. Based on #2, above: If we have the means to help others but only wish them well while doing nothing, the world around us sees a dead faith. The world will see Christ more clearly when believers "Stand up and stand out even if they stand alone." Discuss.
4. Based on #2, above: How has someone in this group shown a tangible kindness to those around us?
5. Based on #3, above: Demons believe but do not submit. Believers believe and draw near to God in submission. There are those who simply say true things--they are not necessarily true believers. There are those who know true things--and it may even effect their emotions (like the demons). But true converts are impacted at the heart level--the seat of the very soul. Are you a talker, a "knower," or a true convert?