## Faith and fire

# What does saving faith look like?

#### **Obedience**

Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me. John 14:23–24 (ESV)

## **Mercy** and **Compassion**

#### **Love**

By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35 (ESV)

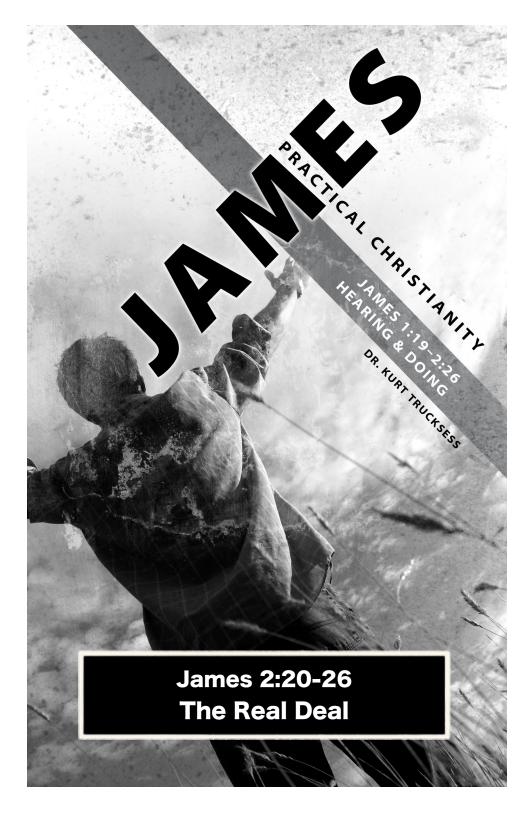
By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. 1 John 3:10–11 (ESV)

### **Perseverance**

For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. Hebrews 3:14 (ESV)

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#### Faith Church - EFCA



July 17, 2011

James 2:20-26 - The Real Deal

- Faith without mercy doesn't save anybody (2:14)
- Faith without obedience is dead faith. (2:15-16)
- Faith that is all about theological information and no life transformation is demonic faith. (2:19)

## Abraham the hero

Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"—and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. James 2:20–24 (ESV)

And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:4–6 (ESV)

He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." Genesis 22:2 (ESV)

So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. Genesis 22:3 (ESV)

You see that faith was active along with his works, and <u>faith was</u> completed by his works; James 2:22 (ESV)

# Rahab the whore

And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? James 2:25 (ESV)

Before the men lay down, she came up to them on the roof... And as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for the Lord your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. Joshua 2:8, 11 (ESV)

For we hold that <u>one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.</u> Romans 3:28 (ESV)

You see that <u>a person is justified by works and not by faith alone</u>. James 2:24 (ESV)