

sermonnotes

Putting Your Faith to Work – Part 2

Christianity is facing a credibility crisis. Beyond just *saying* the right things, we must *do* the right things. We must give proof of our faith by our actions to a watching world.

“In the same way, let your light shine before men that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

James 1:19–27

Faith on the Ground

1. Listen to _____ and speak to _____ others. James 1:19–20
 - Many conflicts that lead to division are the result of short tempers and hasty words. We have two ears and one mouth which should remind us to listen more than we speak.
 - Listening is a skill to be developed, so work at being present, listen to learn, and focus on compassion.
2. Allow God’s Word to _____ who you are and how you live. James 1:22–25
 - It is not hearing the Word that brings transformation, but _____ the Word. Too many Christians mark their Bible, but their Bible never marks them.

- 2 Timothy 3:16—When we take God’s Word and put it to work in our lives it informs us, corrects us, develops us, and directs us.

3. Be proactive in _____ for the marginalized and disadvantaged. James 1:27
 - When we care for the orphans, widows, and the marginalized we are ministering to the Lord (Matthew 25:40). We are fulfilling God’s directive (Isaiah 1:15–18). And we are living out compassion which is a witness to the world (Matthew 5:16).
4. Guard yourself from the trash of the world. James 1:27
 - We guard ourselves from the influence of the world by passionately pursuing Jesus (Matthew 6:33), being guided by God’s Word (Psalm 119:9–11), and by being led by the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:16–18).

Faith on the ground is more than believing; it is living out the very faith we profess.

Answers: learn, build; shape; doing; caring

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