

PLEASING GOD

James 2:14-26

March 3, 2019

"Without faith, it is impossible to please God."

Hebrews 11:6

"Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith."

2 Corinthians 13:5

WHAT IS REAL FAITH?

1. Real faith is not just something you say

"What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith, but has no deeds? Can such `faith' save him?"

James 2:14

Faith is more than talk

2. Real faith is not just something you feel

"Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him,

`Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed.' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?"

James 2:15-16

Faith is practical

"If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?"

I John 3:17

3. Real faith is not just something you think

"But someone will say, `You have faith -- I have deeds.' Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do."

James 2:18

Faith is something you show

4. Real faith is not just something you believe

"You believe that there is one God. Good! But even the demons believe that -- and shudder!"

James 2:19

Faith is a commitment to God

5. Real faith is something you do

Faith is something you demonstrate

"When will you ever learn that `believing' is useless without doing what God wants you to? Faith that does not result in good deeds is not real faith!"

James 2:20 (LB)

"For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not your own doing, but God's gift... and in our union with Christ Jesus he has created us for a life of good works, which he has already prepared for us to do."

Ephesians 2:8-10

The basis for my salvation is God's Grace

The proof of my salvation is my ministry. Serving God by serving others