

"Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes  
and daily food. If one of you says to them,  
'Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,'  
but does nothing about their physical needs,  
what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself,  
if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.  
But someone will say, 'You have faith; I have deeds.'  
Show me your faith without deeds,  
and I will show you my faith by my deeds."  
- James 2:15-18

## **Faith is Not Talk, but Action**

Faith is not talk, but action.

It is easy to talk about faith, just like it is easy to say, "I love you."  
But, living and acting in life by doing feats of love and faith is on a  
completely different level.

Saying and doing cannot even be compared as equals.

The man who is treating people in love does not need to continuously be  
telling them he loves them (though, it is nice to hear once in a while!), just  
like a man who is living by faith and trust in God's word does not need to tell  
people how much faith he has (though, it is important to testify and identify  
your source of motivation.)

Pastor James is telling his congregation faith is seen not heard. He uses the  
example of the person who is willing to pronounce a blessing, or to pray for  
someone in need, but is not willing to do something to help bring the  
blessing or to answer the pray request. Surely, James is not discouraging  
blessing people or praying for people, but he is pointing out it is easy to  
speak empty blessing and meaningless prayers. It is hard to say that the  
food given to a person who is hungry is pointless if it satisfies hunger. Just  
like a coat given to a cold person is far from meaningless if it produces  
warmth.

Faithless blessings and meaningless prayers are easy to toss around, but  
handing out food and clothing (or, the manifestation of faith in any physical  
form) has a good chance to be genuine.