

**Just Do It.**

1988

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# Study on James

- James 2:14-26
- Faith And Deeds - NIV
- Faith In Action - The Message

# James 2:14-17 (The Message)

“Dear friends, do you think you’ll get anywhere in this if you learn all the right words but never do anything? Does merely talking about faith indicate that a person really has it? For instance, you come upon an old friend dressed in rags and half-starved and say, “Good morning, friend! Be clothed in Christ! Be filled with the Holy Spirit!” and walk off without providing so much as a coat or a cup of soup—where does that get you? Isn’t it obvious that God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense?”

This Is What Happens To Most  
People When They Go To Church  
Every Sunday

No one knows who you really are  
out of church and when no one  
else is looking.

It's not what you say or know that matters but how you live and act.



How Much?

“Whoever wants to be my disciple  
must deny themselves and take up  
their cross daily and follow me.”  
Luke 9:23

Tuning In And Tuning Out

“Tuning in and tuning out is the dangerous practice of selective listening that is detrimental to cultivating depth in the soul.”

- Edmund Chan

# Tuning In & Tuning Out

- This selective listening happens because the heart is not ready to listen and follow God fully.
- We think we know God when we really do not.
- Our faith is severely compromised.
- Obedience is the acid test.

“The reason why many are still troubled, still seeking, still making little forward progress is because they haven't yet come to the end of themselves. We're still trying to give orders, and interfering with God's work within us.”

- A.W Tozer

Mediocre Christianity is not  
an option.

**NATO**



**No Action Talk Only**

“When there's a sermon preached or a book read the gist of which is ‘take thy cross and follow, go on unto perfection’ why, people begin to ask questions and bargain with God. They say "What will it cost? What will it cost me to be that kind of a Christian? What will it cost me in time? You know I don't have much time. What will it cost me in money? You know I have a family. What will it cost me in labor? You know that I work hard. What will it cost me in relationships? I don't want to give up my friends." As soon as you hear a man, looking in the face of Jesus Christ and saying "Master, I'd like to follow you all the way but it's too costly" you have a poor, mediocre wretch on your hands!”

- A.W Tozer

“<sup>24</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. <sup>25</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? <sup>26</sup> Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”

Luke 9:24-26

# Abraham

- Faith tested when he was called to sacrifice his son Isaac.
- Abraham had waited over 20 years to receive this precious child and all his hopes and dreams and inheritance was wrapped up in Isaac.
- Isaac was Abraham's everything.
- “The Lord Will Provide” (Genesis 22:13)

# The Perfect Response

- What will it cost me to be that kind of a Christian? God will provide.
- What will it cost me in time? God will provide.
- What will it cost me in money? God will provide.
- What will it cost me in labor? God will provide.
- What will it cost me in relationships? God will provide.

“<sup>9</sup> ...“I know that the Lord has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. <sup>10</sup>

We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. <sup>11</sup>

When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

<sup>12</sup> “Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign <sup>13</sup> that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death.” <sup>14</sup> “Our lives for your lives!” the men assured her. “If you don’t tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the Lord gives us the land.”

- Joshua 2:9-14

Risk everything to save everything



1

We need to desire to grow in our relationship with God and act in a continual fashion.

“Therefore let us go on and get past the elementary stage in the teachings and doctrine of Christ, advancing steadily toward the completeness and perfection that belong to spiritual maturity.”

Hebrews 6:1 (AMP)

S pecific

M easurable

A ttainable

R ealistic

T imely

Take steps to grow and in the  
direction that God will reveal to us

“People speed through life as if the destination of death is more important than the journey of life!”  
- Justin Ang

We have to take action so that we may become the people that He wants us to be in order to do the work He wants us to do.

2

We need to be absolutely sure of who we are, what we stand for and live like it.

# Bible engagement leads to...

1. Confessing wrongdoings to God and asking forgiveness.
2. Believing in Jesus Christ as the only way to heaven and the number of years one has believed this.
3. Making a decision to obey or follow God with an awareness that choosing to do so might be costly.
4. Praying for the spiritual status of people they know are not professing Christians.
5. Reading a book about increasing their spiritual growth.
6. Having been discipled or mentored one-on-one by a more spiritually mature Christian.



"Bible engagement points people toward maturity and maturing Christians have practices that correspond to Bible reading. Almost all churchgoers want to honor God, but more than a third indicate obedience is not something they have done when it is costly to them."

- Ed Stetzer

Read it  
Know it  
Live it

**Just Do It.**

# My prayer for all of us...

- If you want to read the Bible more, Just Do It.
- If you want to spend more time in prayer, Just Do It.
- If you want to be a better parent, Just Do It.
- If you want to focus more on your family, Just Do It.
- If you want to stop gambling, Just Do It.
- If you want to join a small group, Just Do It.
- If you want to serve the community, Just Do It.
  
- **NO EXCUSES, JUST DO IT.**