

IS YOUR FAITH ALIVE OR DEAD?

Pastor Ken Ritz * August 19, 2018 * New Life Vineyard

James 2:14-26

We know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ.

Galatians 2:16

FAITH: ALIVE OR DEAD?

	Paul (Galatians 2:16)	James (James 2:24)
Problem:	"Legalism"	"Laxity"
Works:	Jewish laws	Christian lifestyle
Focus:	"Root of salvation" (internal/unseen)	"Fruit of salvation" (external/seen)
Purpose:	How to <u>know</u> I'm a Christian	How to <u>show</u> I'm a Christian
Salvation:	Based on faith alone	But not on a faith that is alone

2 EXAMPLES OF DEAD FAITH

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.

James 2:15-17

You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that — and shudder.

James 2:19

2 EXAMPLES OF ALIVE FAITH

You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.

James 2:20

In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

James 2:25

DEAD OR ALIVE? THE TEST

1. I have an overwhelming sense of gratitude for what Jesus Christ did for me.

	Not really			Strongly agree	
	1	2	3	4	5

2. I look for opportunities to tell people about the love of Jesus Christ.

1	2	3	4	5
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

3. I have a strong desire to grow spiritually.

1	2	3	4	5
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

4. I enjoy friendships and fellowship with other believers in Christ.

1	2	3	4	5
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

5. My character has developed noticeably since becoming a believer.

1	2	3	4	5
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

6. I have an increasing desire to orient my life around God's purposes in this world.

1	2	3	4	5
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

Total _____