

## FAITH IN ACTION

### How can we develop a deep faith?

James 2:14 (NLT) *What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone?*

<sup>15</sup> *Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, <sup>16</sup> and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?*

<sup>17</sup> *So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.*

<sup>18</sup> *Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."*

Actions show faith's genuineness.

<sup>19</sup> *You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. <sup>20</sup> How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?*

<sup>21</sup> *Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. <sup>23</sup> And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." He was even called the friend of God.*

James— 2:24 (NLT) *So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone.*

Paul—Romans 3:28 (NLT) *So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law*

<sup>25</sup> *Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road.*

James 2:26 (NLT) *Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.*

### **What kind of faith do I have?**

#### **1). Cognitive Faith**

#### **2). Controlled Faith**

#### **3). Courageous Faith**

Hebrews 11:33 (NLT) *By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their loved ones back again from death. But others were tortured, refusing to turn from God in order to be set free. They placed their hope in a better life after the resurrection.*

<sup>36</sup> *Some were jeered at, and their backs were cut open with whips. Others were chained in prisons. <sup>37</sup> Some died by stoning, some were sawed in half, and others were killed with the sword. Some went about wearing skins of sheep and goats, destitute and oppressed and mistreated. <sup>38</sup> They were too good for this world, wandering over deserts and mountains, hiding in caves and holes in the ground.*