

I. Dead Faith (v. 14-17)

A. Dead faith is based on false claims

“He replied, ‘Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.’” (Luke 6:46)

B. Dead faith is revealed by a lack of evidence

“They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.” (Titus 1:16)

C. Dead faith substitutes words for actions

“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)

D. Dead faith is head knowledge without life change

“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.” (Matthew 3:8)

E. Dead faith is not saving faith

II. Shallow Faith (v. 18-19)

A. True faith will produce evidence

“Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord’, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 7:21)

B. Shallow faith is based on only intellectual agreement

C. Shallow faith is emotional without repentance

D. True faith involves the will

“Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you – unless, of course, you fail the test?” (2 Corinthians 13:5)

E. Shallow faith is not saving faith

III. Dynamic Faith (v. 20-26)

A. The example of Abraham

1. Abraham was saved by faith

“What does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.’” (Romans 4:3)

2. Abraham demonstrated his faith by radical obedience

3. Abraham's faith and actions worked together

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:8-10)

4. Abraham was called a friend of God

B. The example of Rahab

1. Rahab was saved by faith

"By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient." (Hebrews 11:31)

2. Rahab demonstrated her faith by risky obedience

C. Saving faith is proved genuine by a godly life

"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." (John 15:8)