

# Productivity

11-23-25

James 2:18 (ESV)

But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

**This message is not about following rules, but about the “Productivity” of the Royal Law of Love. Previously Salvation and fulfillment of the Law in love have been settled. However, our faith should “produce physical actions” from the power with us. The human question is whether we will make the decision to do what we are told in order to release the power within us. Go back to verse 14, to see God’s plea with us to physically act out our faith. The NCV captures this well.**

James 2:14-17 (NCV) NO/OH

<sup>14</sup> My brothers and sisters, if people say they have faith, but do nothing, their faith is worth nothing.

Can faith like that save them? <sup>15</sup> A brother or sister in Christ might need clothes or food. <sup>16</sup> If you say to that person, “God be with you! I hope you stay warm and get plenty to eat,” but you do not give what that person needs, your words are worth nothing. <sup>17</sup> In the same way, faith by itself—that does nothing—is dead. (Productivity/Evidence)

**We need to look at the definition of faith.  
Hebrews 11:8, Abraham when called ... went.  
Therefore, faith is hearing God then doing what  
God said. Not like the man in James 1:22 who  
looked at himself in the mirror and when he  
walked away forgot what he saw. Faith has two  
components; hearing God and doing what HE  
says. If we take out hearing it is not faith or if we  
take out doing it is not faith. Faith, Godly  
productivity requires both hearing and doing.**

James 2:18 (ESV)

But someone will say, “You have faith (hearing) and I have works (doing).” Show me your faith (hearing) apart from your works (doing), and I will show you my faith (hearing) by my works (doing).

**Two sons laying on the couch watching TV. Their mother asks them to clean up their room. They both hear and say, “Ok, Love you mom.” One does nothing and the other one goes and cleans the room. Which one is productive. Productive faith is acting like Abraham, when called he went. Truly faith with no action is not faith at all. We may say we believe God, but so do demons.**

James 2:19 (ESV)

You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

**God who spoke the Word and created the universe indwells us. God's indwelling requires us to make a decision to accomplish something.**

James 2:21-22 (ESV) NO/OH

Abraham when told offered up his son Isaac on the altar? That faith was active along with his works.

**Now we may recoil at God's request and Abraham's obedience. However, much is to be learned. First of all, this was a one-time never to be repeated situation. It was to serve as a type of Christ to help us understand God giving HIS son to die on the cross. God provide a lamb for Abraham to sacrifice in Isaac's place. Yet we see the magnitude of believing faith. Thus, we see in v.23, Abraham was called the friend of God.**

**When God tells us something, we need to do it.**

James 2:24 (ESV)

You see that a person is justified (declared righteous, productive) by works (doing) and not by faith (just hearing) alone.

**The word justified may be applied to various actions of a person. As you see here, a person is justified (successful, productive) by works (doing) and not by faith (just hearing) alone. Notice: **This section does not talk about keeping the OT Law.****

**It talks about “specifically” hearing God and doing “specifically” what HE tells us to do.**

**Productivity! Rahab clearly shows this.**

James 2:25 (ESV)

And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?

**As a pagan, Rahab doesn't even know that there is a Law. Yet she is listed in the Hall of Fame of faith in Hebrew Chapter 11. Productivity.**

James 2:26 (ESV)

For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith (just hearing) apart from works (doing) is dead.

**Productivity!**

Romans 10:15 (ESV)

As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

**We are saved to serve, and the paramount element in that service is to bear witness to the saving power of Christ. Consider every encounter as a divine appointment and listen, then speak.**

Mark 13:11 (ESV)

Do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

**Keep it Simple!**

Acts 4:12 (ESV)

And there is salvation in no one else (but Jesus), for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.