**Authentic** *(Series Graphic)*

**Bench Test of the Believer**—James 1:1-18

**The Perfect Mirror**—James 1:19-27

**Me? Prejudice?** —James 2:1-13

**Dying Faith**

(James 2:14-17)

“What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? **Can such faith save them?** Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, “God 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**.”

1. Faith is authentic when faith is **demonstrated**.

**Demonstration:** *conclusive evidence proven by action.*

 The inner reality is no reality until it is **outwardly** **expressed**.

(James 2:18-19)

“But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.” **Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds**. You believe that there is one God. Good! **Even demons believe that**—and shudder.”

1. Faith and action must work **together**.

(Ephesians 2:8-9)

“For it is **by grace you have been saved**, through **faith**—and this is **not from yourselves**, it is a gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”

(Ephesians 2:10)

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ **Jesus to do good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

**Two Components of Faith:** *\*\*No list\*\**

1. **Obedience** to God.
2. **Compassion** to people.

(James 2:20-26)

“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 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. And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God’s friend. You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone. 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**.”

3 Don’t live with **dying faith**. Let’s take action.