

GENESIS STUDY QUESTIONS

August 30 2009

James 2:14-24 "Works of Faith"

Getting Started

What was the last movie you watched at home or in the theater? Did you like it? Why or why not?

If your faith/belief in God was a movie title and/or tv show, what would it be?

Digging Deeper

What is "church" really about?

If the "church" is less about a building we meet in and more about the people (body of Christ), What does the phrase "Be the church to Santa Cruz County and beyond" mean to you?

Read James 2:14-24.

After reading the passage, how would you describe the difference between "being part of a church" and "being the church"?

In verse 15, James gives us an example of faith in action (being the church). Re-write it using your own words. Think of a practical way to use deeds as a way of living out your faith.

Re-read verses 17 and 18. What connection does James make between faith and deeds?

Application

Ask yourself the following question: Where is your faith in action?

- A. Time spent at church on Sunday
- B. The rest of the week

This is not a question to elicit guilt. It is intended only to act as a means to evaluate our own profession of and participation in our faith.

So...where do we go from here?

Read James 3:13 and James 1:5. Here we find practical teaching on how we can begin to "be the church" instead of just "being a part of a church."

What do we need in order to participate in the faith we profess?

How do we obtain it?

CHALLENGE!

Ask a family member or friend to answer the following question:

"If you knew nothing about my profession of faith, but observed everything I did all week long, would you conclude that I was all about Jesus?"

Pray and ask God to use their response to encourage you, so that the reality of your faith is revealed by how you live your life.